

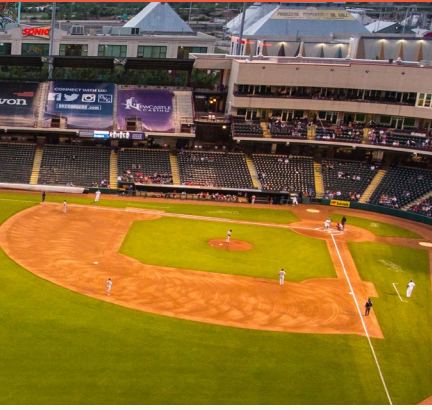


# HOWNIKAN

Gtegangises / May 2016

Top Photo: The sun sets over the plains of Kansas. Photo taken near the town of Wellington.

## Oklahoma destinations worth a visit



There are several interesting tourism destinations within easy driving distance of the CPN headquarters for those visiting this summer.

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## Two Potawatomi graduate from U.S. Naval Academy



Tribal members Whitney Heer and Caleb Anderson will graduate with the Class of 2016 at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

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## Arbitrator rules in favor of CPN in Oklahoma Tax Commission dispute

The Oklahoma Tax Commission has lost in its attempt to unlawfully collect sales taxes from the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. Arbitrator Daniel J. Boudreau, former State of Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice, ruled in favor of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in a dispute between CPN and the Oklahoma Tax Commission.

"Federal law protecting tribal sovereignty interests preempts and invalidates the State's sales tax on the Nation's sales in question," Justice Boudreau said in his decision. "We are grateful to read the final decision by

tration award that the "Federal and tribal interests must be weighed against state interests. When a state imposes a tax on non-member activity on Indian land, the courts apply a flexible preemption analysis to determine whether the tax is valid or invalid."

The analysis test comes from United States Supreme Court rulings in Indian Country U.S.A. v. State of Oklahoma, 829 F.2d 967 {10th Cir. 1987} and White Mountain Apache Tribe v. Bracker, 448 U.S. 136 {1980}, among other decisions.

transactions and therefore suffers no uncompensated economic burden arising therefrom. He concluded by finding that the federal and tribal interests at stake predominate significantly over any possible state interest in the transactions upon which the OTC seeks to impose its sales tax on.

"Our goal is to improve the quality of life in this Pottawatomie County, including the communities around us and we do that by creating opportunities for all people through quality jobs and increased services in our area of economic impact,"



*An independent arbitrator ruled the Oklahoma Tax Commission unlawfully attempted to close businesses over the tribe's refusal to act as its sales tax collector.*

former Supreme Court Justice Boudreau," stated Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Chairman John Barrett. "It confirms what we've said all along. The state government acted unlawfully in its attempt to tax tribal enterprises operating on Indian trust land."

The tribe requested arbitration after the OTC filed a complaint in its Administrative Proceedings Division on May 28, 2014 seeking to revoke permits for sales tax, low point beer and mixed beverages from all tribal enterprises including FireLake Entertainment Center, FireLake Corner Store, FireLake Discount Foods, FireLake Express Grocery and Grand Casino Hotel and Resort.

The State of Oklahoma incorrectly said that the Nation was obligated to collect, report and pay state sales taxes on sales at all tribal businesses under the gaming compact. The Nation disputed that, arguing that the State of Oklahoma was attempting to use the gaming compact to unlawfully impose state sales taxes on tribal land.

Justice Boudreau stated in the arbi-

Specifically, Boudreau found that that the Nation has significant federal and tribal interests in the CPN's self-governance, economic self-sufficiency, and self-determination. He also noted that the Nation alone invests value in the goods and services that it sells not by advertising its exclusivity from state sales taxes due to the imposition of equivalent tribal sales tax on transactions taking place on its tribal trust land.

"We have diversified our businesses so that our government revenue does not only depend on gaming," Barrett said. "In order to support our government, provide services to Oklahoma citizens and create more economic development, we charge the same sales tax at our enterprises as the non-tribal communities near them. We do this not only to provide needed revenue, but because it is the fair thing to do. We do not want an unfair advantage created from a tax exemption."

Boudreau also found that the State of Oklahoma possesses no economic interest beyond a general quest for additional revenue by seeking to impose a sales tax on the Nation's

said Chairman Barrett. "Our economic impact is now more than \$550 million per year with gaming as a reinvestment revenue source. It has allowed us to create 2,400 jobs in our rural communities, which in Pottawatomie County equates to 70 percent of all new job creation in the last ten years."

Oklahoma law firm Crowe & Dunlevy represented CPN in the arbitration.

"This is a significant victory for the Nation," said Mike McBride, Chair of Crowe & Dunlevy's Indian Law & Gaming Practice Group. "The facts and law needed to prove federal preemption is complex and hard to do. It has been decades since a tribe in Oklahoma has won such a decisive and broad victory to keep the state out of the Nation's businesses. The arbitration award should help bring economic peace and prosperity for the Nation."

*Read the full text of Justice Boudreau's ruling at <http://cpn.news/Boudreau>.*



# Preparing for the 2016 Family Reunion Festival

In addition to the annual Family Reunion Festival in June, CPN will also be hosting the 2016 Potawatomi Gathering of Nations in Shawnee, Oklahoma, on July 28-30. Regular attendees, first time participants and tribal members from different Potawatomi bands should start preparing for the two events. CPN employees who have attended and worked both events throughout the years offer their advice on preparing for the events.

**Who are the honored families and what should those family members do?**

**Curtis Grant, CHC Tribal Heritage Productions:** “The honored families for this year’s Family Reunion Festival are the Clardy, Frapp, Kahdot, Juneau, Pappan, Crumbo and Muller families. Every year the honored families are encouraged to participate in the Tribal Heritage Production videos to help archive each family’s history.

“Tribal Heritage Productions documents the culture and identity of tribal members by videotaping and producing family history videos which can be found at the cultural heritage center.

“Tribal members are encouraged to wear some type of Potawatomi regalia during the interview and can either be filmed as an individual, a couple or with their whole family. Times and dates for each family’s interview are posted on the Festival schedule and occur throughout the three-day event.”

**Are family photos taken for the honored families? How does that work?**

**Benjamin Apitz, CPN Public Information photographer:** “On Saturday at least an hour before General Council, honored families meet up at the powwow arena for a scheduled group photo. I suggest making plans with your family before the day of the group photo. You might think about starting a Facebook group or something similar to help organize the group photo. A good idea is to have everyone in the same colored shirt. For each honored family you can wear different colored shirts to easily identify which family is which within the group photo of the honored family.”



*Being prepared for Festival will allow you to have a memorable weekend.*

**What is the process for donating items to the Cultural Heritage Center?**

**CPN Curator and Archivist Blake Norton:** “Unfortunately we are unable to accept any donations during the event given the legal, recording and conservational requirements needed to appropriately accept them.

“There simply isn’t enough time for the staff to adequately process the large amount of submissions made by tribal members during the three-day gathering.

“However, any other time of the year we do accept donated items. The process is considerably long. Upon assessment, we accept a collection on a temporary basis or consideration status and submit it for approval by our Collections Committee. Once approved, acquisitions are determined gift or loan and appropriate legal processes are completed.”

**What is the proper attire for Grand Entry and how can someone enter the competition dancing?**

**CPN Powwow Arena Director Coby Lehman:** “The powwow arena is a sacred area for the tribe and not wearing the proper attire is offensive. Every year I see people wearing flip flops, shorts and peo-

ple bringing their pets in the arena. These things are not allowed and are some of the common mistakes we see each year.

“Tribal members looking to participate in dancing during Grand Entry or the various social dances need to have adequate attire to do such. Men and boys need to have at least a ribbon shirt, closed toe shoes and pants. Women and girls need to have at least a skirt, their shoulders covered and closed toe shoes.

“Competition dancers will need to sign up the day of the powwow to participate in the judged dances. For those interested in competition dancing and have never done such please [watch the video](#) PLP members Brian Wojahn and Kate Anderson made about showcasing the different styles of dance typically seen during the powwow. It can be seen at the CPN Hownikan YouTube page.”

**What are some options for people making their own regalia?**

**Margaret Zientek, regular attendee and dancer at Festival and Gathering:** “Those who are creating new regalia or additions to their regalia should start doing so several months before the events. If you are commissioning someone to make an item, even more time should be allowed to get your regalia done in time.

“Anyone within driving distance to the cultural heritage center can attend their regalia making classes on Tuesdays from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Professional powwow dancer Leslie Deer instructs the class how to make anything from shawls and ribbon shirts to blouses and applique. Sewing machines are provided but participants need to bring their own fabric or purchase it inside the CHC at Potawatomi Gifts.

“For those unable to attend the classes look into the area you live in and if there are any similar classes you can attend. There is also plenty of resources for regalia making classes online such as the Cheyenne and Arapaho Television show on YouTube, [Making Regalia with Juaquin Lonelodge](#).

“During both events, the CHC will offer different regalia making classes including shawl making, bead working and moccasin making. Plenty of sewing machines will be available for those in need of making a quick repair or an addition to their regalia.”

*The 2016 Family Reunion Festival will take place June 24-26 while the 2016 Gathering of Nations will take place from July 28-30. For more information about the Family Reunion Festival or Potawatomi Gathering of Nations please visit [www.potawatomi.org/culture](http://www.potawatomi.org/culture).*





# CPCDC promotes Native American small business opportunities

In the aftermath of the Great Recession, loans of all kinds became increasingly difficult to secure. Access to credit, especially for first time business owners and entrepreneurs, narrowed because of the owner's credit worthiness rather than their potential for success. According to a report released by Intuit, 83 percent of businesses with less than 11 employees relied on the owner's credit history to apply for a loan.

For Native Americans interested in starting or expanding a small business, there are opportunities available via the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation. Through its commercial lending and business counseling services, the CPCDC can assist Native American-owned small businesses in areas where more traditional lending institutions would not. Staffed with personnel who have a wealth of finance and small business experience like Senior Commercial Lender/COO Bob Crothers, the CPCDC has an established track record of providing its customers and clients with lending opportunities and business planning guidance.

Crothers is familiar face in Shawnee, Oklahoma, having graduated high school there. In 1970, he went into business for himself, owning two small drive-in restaurants before opening three of Shawnee's most famous export: Sonic Drive Ins, in central Arkansas. He eventually sold his stake in those before moving into the hospital food service industry in Little Rock.

Upon returning to Shawnee, he added real estate development to his repertoire, working for his father's well-known realty company while he continued restaurant developments. In 1984, along with partners, he purchased a closed theater called the Old Saw Mill Opry in Branson, Missouri as the town grew into a year-round regional holiday destination. After two successful years, Crothers sold the Old Sawmill Opry to a group from Oklahoma who wanted a venue for a Christian Music Show. Returning to Oklahoma, Crothers worked in real estate, until opening his own mortgage banking operation, in 1999. The company, American Resource Mortgage, became one of the primary home mortgage providers for many community banks. In 2001 it became the eastern Oklahoma mortgage provider for Local Oklahoma Bank. Crothers sold the company in 2005 to a banking organization and remained as division president until 2008. At that point, he'd assumed he was retired.

"After six months I was crawling the walls. My wife still worked, my kids were all grown and you can't play golf five days a week because your buddies are all still working. So I came to work here (at the CPCDC) as a commercial lender," said Crothers. "I was going to stay a year. That was eight years ago."

The addition of Crothers and other financial professionals has benefit-

ted the institution. By Crothers' estimates, the organization's capital base has grown from around \$8.5 million when he began to approximately \$40 million in 2016. In terms of loans, it has issued approximately \$25-26 million, with roughly \$26 million in available capital.

That growth has been accompanied by an expansion of businesses and customers to provide financial tools to. In November 2015, the CPCDC secured its largest amount of funding in more than 10 years with a \$16 million bond issue from the U.S. Treasury Department's Community Development Financial Institution Bond Guarantee Program.

That bond put the organization's total financing capital at \$41.3 million, exceeding the combined total for the years 2003-2014.

"When I started our average loan amount was about \$60,000. Today, with tribal lending, our average is around \$300,000. Not counting tribal lending, the average is now around \$80,000," said Crothers.

While the organization's success is evident when looking at the numbers, the staff remain most proud of their ability to both grow *and* continue the CPCDC's original mission of providing financing to small businesses and improving the commercial investment climate in Indian Country.

## Easy credit ends in post-Great Recession era

A more stringent regulatory framework implemented in the years since the 2008 financial crisis forced many lenders to hold a higher capital amount before even considering underwriting a loan. Banks that once specialized in small business loans have reigned in lending and have continued to do so despite an improving economic climate.

"My last year at the bank was during the Great Recession, our primary objective was how to tell you 'no' without losing your business. It was not that we didn't want to make loans; it was simply that everybody was too afraid to make them. When I came here, the reverse was the case," said Crothers.

Under the guidance of Director Shane Jett, the CPCDC has doubled down on its focus on economic development in Indian Country through small business loans ahead of an outright pursuit of profits. Where more traditional commercial lenders are cutting back, the CPCDC invests both time and capital in its customers' success, despite the challenges.



Bob Crothers

"It costs just as much to make a \$10,000 loan as it does to make a \$300,000 loan in terms of hard costs," explained Crothers. "We may never make a penny on a \$10,000 loan, but our focus remains to help small businesses owned by CPN tribal members and Natives of all tribes."

Crothers said he and his fellow CPCDC financial professionals' goal is to try to find a way to provide loan capital while also offering services that a regular bank would be unable to offer.

"We can make loans to start-ups, up to 80-90 percent if it's warranted," he said. "We can also hold alternative forms of collateral - collateral that a traditional banker could not consider."

Some of the more interesting forms of collateral that the CPCDC has accepted in his time include cattle, rare historical items and horticultural products. The CPCDC can also accept hypothecated collateral, which given the risk involved, many formal lending institutions would steer clear of.

"Say for instance you are \$20,000 short of the collateral needed for the equipment you'll need for your new business. If your dad has a truck worth \$30,000 for example, he can hypothecate - or pledge it - as collateral and we can accept that to help cover our loan."

Crothers recalled that when he was just starting out in business, someone told him "in a bank, you can always borrow money if you don't really need it."

"What I always thought to myself when I heard that was 'well if I had the money, why would I be coming to you for a loan?' Here we accept the fact that our customers are coming to us because they don't have the money or because they are a start-up or have the experience," he said.

In this vein the lenders at the CPCDC have another advantage; offering logistical support and business planning advice as terms of a loan.

"We may look at your business plan and say 'hey this is great, but you lack some training - like balancing the books - that you'll need to succeed.' Well we can suggest they take a business training course at Gordon Cooper Technology Center and once you pass, we'll issue the loan. A bank can't do that."

With professionals who have cut their teeth in a variety of commercial endeavors in the public and private sectors, the CPCDC also offers technical assistance. The investment in CPCDC time and resources does come with a caveat; close oversight of the business' health.

"We want to see everything, from your books to your pay stubs. It might even include us camping out at your store to see how your staff handles customers. What any business person will tell you is that as many sets of eyes that you can get on a problem, the better off you'll be. Most of our clients love it."

## The HEARTH Act changes the game

Because tribal lands are held in trust by the federal governments, holders of mortgages are unable to place a lien against any property on tribal land. The absence of a lien on the property disincentivizes lenders from issuing a mortgage. In order to rectify this, the U.S. government allowed the Secretary of the Interior to approve leases of tribal trust land with liens, but the approval process could take up to two years.

The HEARTH Act streamlined the process, allowing tribal governments to decide on such agreements without Washington D.C.'s oversight. Under the act, a lease can be put on a piece of property, which can then be turned into a lease-hold mortgage.

In November 2013, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and Tribal Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett signed the CPN-U.S. HEARTH Act Agreement, a game changer for economic development in Indian Country.

CPN's signing in 2013 has heralded the start of one business, BDC Gun Room, while the development of Iron Horse Industrial Park looks to exponentially grow this development. As a leading financial player in commercial development in Indian Country, the CPCDC is well placed to benefit.

"It breaks new ground for other tribes too," Crothers explained. "We'll be the first tribe to use lease-hold mortgages to secure federally backed money in a loan format."

Lease-hold mortgages are different from a traditional secured mortgage

*Continued on page 4*



Extend your Festival stay and visit these Oklahoma destinations



**Mabee-Gerrer Museum of Art**  
1900 West MacArthur Drive Shawnee, OK 74804 | 405-878-5300

Founded in 1919, the Mabee-Gerrer is one of the oldest museums in the state. Located on the grounds of St. Gregory’s University in Shawnee, the museum’s one-of-a-kind permanent collection includes mummies, Native American regalia and old world antiquities. Each month the museum rolls out a new featured exhibit, which highlights art and culture from across the world. Find out more about the current monthly exhibit and find admission costs at [www.mgmoa.org](http://www.mgmoa.org).



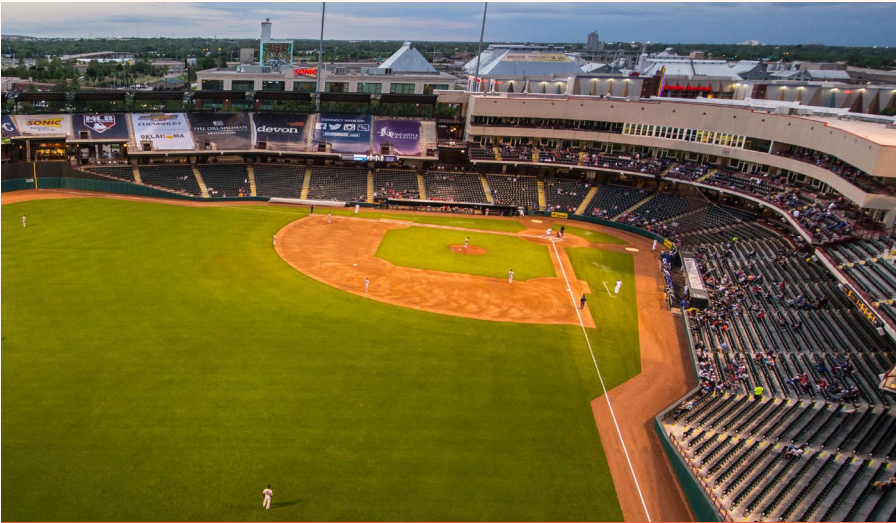
**Museum of Osteology**  
10301 South Sunnyslane Rd. Oklahoma City, OK 73160 | 405-814-0006

This museum houses nearly 300 different skeletons from all over the world. Boasting the largest private collection of osteological specimens in the world, the museum is home to remains of small and large animals from the land and from the sea. For admission costs and hours of operation please visit [www.museumofosteology.org](http://www.museumofosteology.org).



**Myriad Botanical Gardens**  
301 W. Reno Oklahoma City, OK 73102 | 405-445-7080

This 15-acre park offers numerous activities for the whole family. Located in the heart of downtown Oklahoma City, visitors can enjoy many amenities including a children’s garden, restaurants and numerous walking paths. The gardens’ centerpiece, the Crystal Bridge Tropical Conservatory offers guests an opportunity to stroll through a translucent indoor garden house with many exotic plants and waterfalls. The park is free, but to check for times and prices for the Crystal Bridge please visit [www.oklahomacitybotanicalgardens.com](http://www.oklahomacitybotanicalgardens.com).



**Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark**  
2 South Mickey Mantle Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73104 | 405 218-1000

The local minor league baseball team, the Oklahoma City Dodgers, is slated to play a week’s worth of home games during the Family Reunion Festival. Located in the middle of bustling Bricktown just off of Interstate 40, the ballpark’s ticket prices are affordable – outfield seating tickets start at \$10 and there are plenty of restaurants and family friendly entertainment options to enjoy nearby before and after a game. To view the schedule or purchase tickets please visit [www.okcdodgers.com](http://www.okcdodgers.com).

CPCDC continued...

that one might take out on a home or commercial property. In a traditional real estate mortgage, the owner pledges the property as a guarantee that if they are unable to pay, the holder of the mortgage can foreclose and sell the property to make up for the loss from the original loan. Under a lease-hold equity mortgage, the lender lends to an individual or company that is leasing property from the tribe. If forced to foreclose due to non-payment, the lender would still have a right to use the property for further investment for the term of the

lease, which is set at a maximum of 25 years for tribal governments.

“When the lease is up, the tribe gets that land back, including any improvements that have accrued to that land. The lender on the other hand, has adequate time and ownership of the property to recover its loan,” said Crothers.

The precedent for such leases in Indian Country comes from the practices of the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, who are major property owners in the city of Palm Springs, California.

The CPCDC’s secondary goal is to foster similar opportunities for fellow tribes, the best example of has been to help secure financing for the Seminole Nation’s Grisso Mansion. Ultimately the CPCDC will continue to serve as an instrument to further the development of Indian Country, a goal too often neglected by federal, state and local authorities.

“Here it’s so much more than just making small business loans though,” concluded Crothers. “We get to work with a tribal organization that’s a major corporation and we’re doing things that are cutting

edge and breaking new ground. It’s a matter of tribes becoming more sophisticated in their financial dealings, and stepping into the 21st century as financially sovereign entities.”

*Established in 2003, the Citizen Potawatomi Community Development Corporation provides financial products and counseling services to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation members and employees nationwide as well as Native American-owned businesses throughout Oklahoma. If you would like to learn more about their services, please visit [www.CPC-DC.org](http://www.CPC-DC.org) or call (405) 878-4697.*



**FIRELAKE**  
**BOWLING CENTER**



405.275.0404  
 /FIRELAKEBOWLING



# Interactions with ICW begin with Intake Specialist Angela Redding

In recent years, rightwing groups like the Goldwater Institute have made a concerted effort to repeal the Indian Child Welfare Act. Opponents claim the 1978 law, which aims to keep foster children of Native American descent in tribal families and communities, is racist. Those playing the race card appear angrier that the law prioritizes rights of Native families over those who are not. ICWA's focus on tribal sovereignty in determining a Native child's placement – with tribal families and communities – is a vital component of tribal sovereignty and recognition of tribes' nation-to-nation relationship with the United States.

Despite highly publicized, poorly researched news reports which grab the headlines about the ICWA, staff members of the CPN Indian Child Welfare Department continue to use the law to protect the wellbeing and interests of tribal children. In that work, the staff regularly works with families in need of counseling and support just to stay together. Whether from neglect, abuse or just an absence of basic necessities, the ICW staff often works with Native American families dealing with extremely trying circumstances. While the ultimate goal is to keep the family together, the ICW staff remains dedicated to protecting the wellbeing of the native children they serve.

Knowing how volatile these situations can be, Director Janet Draper prides herself on hiring staff that can handle tense situations with professionalism and empathy. To her, a calm and understanding first impression with the department is vital to

getting things off on the right foot.

"We don't have time to micromanage, so I hire people who can deal with stressful situations on their own. The person families first meet has to be capable of calming someone down so that our case workers can get to assisting them," explained Draper.

One of the first voices ICW clients hear is that of Angela Redding, an intake specialist for the department and the CPN Tribal Court.

Redding is a graduate of Tecumseh High School and has attended Gordon Cooper Technology Center and Seminole State College. She recently returned to the area where she grew up after 15 years living in Arkansas. She'd previously worked in the financial lending sector before learning about the opening at CPN.

"I applied at CPN because they are the biggest employer in the area and I had just moved back to my hometown," she explained.

She began working at the tribe in November 2015 as a receptionist for the ICW Department and CPN Tribal



Angela Redding

Court, but after a short interim period, was promoted to the ICW Intake Specialist.

Draper, who has a small, but long-tenured core of ICW staff, said that Redding's job interview was a good indicator to what an asset she would become with ICW.

"During the short time of the interview I felt she would be a good fit in this fast paced department," said Draper. "She is now completing all

of the ICW intakes which help tremendously as it is time consuming. That and her ability to calm down people who are upset are integral to our work."

With vitally important issues like child custody and guardianship rights on the line, the job can be stressful. Yet her ability to diffuse contentious circumstances has proven greatly beneficial to the Citizen Potawatomi who must interact with the ICW department. Redding admits that one of the biggest challenges she faces is reading the reports of what many children the department interacts with have had to endure.

Yet those pressures are often offset by the positive outcomes that staff members' witness.

"It's very rewarding to know that in the end, the children will be cared for properly. It helps that I love all my coworkers and our director Janet Draper. She's the best supervisor I have ever had," she said.

When out of the office, Redding enjoys being outdoors, going on camping, fishing and float trips. A single mom, Redding's days are often taken up getting her nearly 14 year old son to his sporting and school events.

To learn more about the services and work of staff members like Angela Redding at the CPN Indian Child Welfare Department, visit <http://cpn.news/ICWHome>.

## CPN volunteer firefighters battle blazes year round

Firefighters across Oklahoma would likely tell you that conditions in the state are the perfect kindling for wildfires. The eastern red cedar, which is native to Oklahoma, and the dry and windy conditions present throughout the year mean that emergency responders must be prepared at all times. Already this year crews battled a wildfire in Oklahoma and Kansas which burned more than 400,000 acres, the largest wildfire in Kansas' history.

"This summer Oklahoma is expecting a drought," said CPN Emergency Management Director Tim Zientek. "After spring, the grass and foliage can burn up from the severe heat in the summer but you never know what to expect. We have to be ready all year round because wildfires can occur at any time of the year here."

CPN employees assist other fire crews and help fight these wildfires throughout Pottawatomie County. Zientek heads up the response effort and has been a driving force in



A CPN water truck responds to a spring 2016 wildfire south of the Grand Casino.

the creation and training of the CPN Volunteer Fire Department.

"Each year Pottawatomie County is affected by several large wildfires," said Zientek. "It's in our best interest to have people ready and willing to help fight these fires. Every time we go out as a crew we are always thanked for being there to help other

emergency teams and fight the fires."

CPN volunteer firefighters come from the ranks of tribal employees, including Nick Nadeau the assistant director of safety and housekeeping, Major Jody Opela and Officer Mike Mckechnie of the CPN Tribal Police. The crew has multiple responsibilities, including assisting other emer-

gency management crews when they respond to fires and other emergencies. Though they aren't often called upon to be on the front lines of the blaze, the CPN volunteers can deliver up to 12,000 gallons of water with CPN's water tanker trucks.

All of the surrounding fire departments have fire tanker trucks, but Zientek and his crew provide back-up water and other supplies.

"The volunteer firefighters at CPN have a really quick response time," said Lieutenant Chad Larmin of the Tecumseh Fire Department. "Anytime we have a structural fire or wildfire we call them. Their 5,000-gallon tanker has helped us time and time again and we're thankful for our partnership with them."

If interested in becoming a volunteer firefighter or for more information, please contact Tim Zientek at 405-275-3121.



# National Museum of the American Indian includes Potawatomi treaty

The original 1836 treaty between the Potawatomi and the United States is now on display as part of an exhibition titled "Nation to Nation: Treaties between the United States and American Indian Nations" at the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. The treaty will be on display until August 2016.

"The history of U.S.-Indian treaties is the history of all Americans," said Kevin Gover, director of NMAI. "We cannot have a complete understanding of what it means to be Americans without knowing about these relationships, whether we are Native Americans or not."

The treaty on display was signed on August 5, 1836 at the Yellow River in Indiana. The treaty between the federal government and the Potawatomi people was a repeal of the 1832 peace treaty, which promised that the Potawatomi people could keep their land in northern Indiana. The United States broke the 1832 agreement and forced the Potawatomi to sell their reservation land for \$14,080 and move west. Many Potawatomi



*Tribal Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett views the "Potawatomi Trail of Death" section of the exhibition. (Paul Morigi/AP Images for The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian)*

refused to move, but ultimately the federal government would send them on a forced march to their new reservation in Kansas. This forced removal became known at the Trail of Death.

"This treaty is significant because it was the treaty that was used as the excuse for the removals from north-

ern Indiana, including the Trail of Death, even though several of the chiefs never signed this or any other removal treaty," said Kelli Mosteller, Ph.D., director of CPN Cultural Heritage Center.

"Nation to Nation" presents the history of the relationship between the United States and American Indian

Nations through their treaties in the largest historical collection ever offered to an audience. Nine original treaties on loan from the National Archives will be displayed for six months during the four-year run of the exhibit.

As the tribe who has signed more treaties with the U.S. government than any other, Potawatomi Nation will have two original treaties represented. The treaty between the Potawatomi and the United States from 1809 will also be displayed from August 2017 to January 2018.

"I hope that visitors to the exhibit leave with a better understanding of how complicated and destructive the treaty era was for tribes," Mosteller said. "From beginning to end, a visitor can see colonial and federal government relations with tribe's transition from one of negotiations between sovereign nations, to one of U.S. federal domination on every aspect of life for Native peoples."

For more information visit [www.nmai.si.edu/nationtonation](http://www.nmai.si.edu/nationtonation).

## A saint amongst the Potawatomi

Many know about the Citizen Potawatomi's long ties to the Catholic Church, with French missionaries first introducing the Christian religion to the tribes of the Great Lakes region as far back as the 17th century. Fewer know the story of one Catholic saint who lived amongst the ancestors of today's Citizen Potawatomi people.

Rose Philippine Duchesne was born in Grenoble, France, during the reign of King Louis XV in 1769. A devout Roman Catholic nun, Duchesne's interest in the New World was peaked at an early age upon hearing a Jesuit missionary speak about the American Indians.

Yet her dream of ministering to the original inhabitants of North America would have to wait. The death of Louis XV gave way to his successor, Louis XVI. The weak and ineffective French king was toppled in 1791 by the French Revolution, which turned its wrath on the Catholic Church. The church was seen by many revolutionaries as part of the *ancient regime* of nobility and clergy who had supported the monarch and oppressed the French people.

Duchesne and her order remained dedicated to their order's service despite the Reign of Terror's closure of their Parisian convent in 1792. Returning to Grenoble to live with her family, she continued her service to the poor and also helped hide fugitive priests fleeing the mob violence that accompanied the later revolutionary period.

She was well into middle age as a nun of the Order of the Sacred Heart in Paris when in 1817 the bishop of

Louisiana visited in search of potential missionaries to peoples of the former French territory. She arrived the next year, travelling to St. Louis before settling in St. Charles, Missouri. There, with other nuns of her order, Sister Duchesne helped establish convents and orphanages as well as the first school for American Indian children west of the Mississippi River.

It was her familiarity with the territories of Missouri and Kansas and their Catholic populations that first brought her into contact with the Potawatomi of the Woods, who had been forcibly removed from Indiana in 1832 to small eastern Kansas reservation. At the age of 72, she arrived at the Jesuit mission established by the Potawatomi at Sugar Creek and ministered to the people there. Her devotion to her religious order was so pronounced that the Potawatomi referred to her as *Quah-Kah-Ka-Num-ad*, or "the woman who prays always."

A legend arose from her devotion to her prayers among the Potawatomi at Sugar Creek. In order to measure her devotion, the Potawatomi scattered kernels of corn on her robe when she prayed to see if she ever moved. According to the story, which is portrayed in numerous pictures of her, including a shrine at Mound City, Kansas, Sister Duchesne amazed the Potawatomi by remaining motionless as she prayed through the night.

There is another, more practical explanation for her devotion to prayer though. Sister Duchesne had only begun to learn English after first arriving in Louisiana in 1818. Her stay with the Potawatomi lasted only one



*Rose Philippine Duchesne*

year, giving the elderly nun little time to master their language so as to adequately communicate and teach, as was her specialty.

Faced with the harsh frontier conditions on the reservation, the elderly Duchesne suffered from poor health and in 1842 she was recalled by the bishop. As noted in Beverly Boyd's article "Rose Philippine Duchesne," the nun was saddened by the order for her to return to St. Charles after such a short time living with the Potawatomi.

"It seems to me that in leaving the Indians, I have left my element, and

that henceforth I can do nothing but languish for the heavenly country from which, happily, there will be no more departures," she wrote at the time.

She died in St. Charles in 1852. Still, her dedication to the people to whom she ministered was never forgotten, especially by the Potawatomi. In accordance with Catholic doctrine, Duchesne's canonization cause was introduced in 1895, followed by the 1909 declaration by Pope Pius X that she was Venerable. Pope Pius XII beatified Duchesne in 1940, before her canonization in 1988 by Pope John Paul II.



# Tribal Nations Maps show historical lands of tribes across the Western Hemisphere

With the rise of Google Earth and GPS directions on smartphones, accessing a map in modern-day life comes at the touch of a finger. Yet too often, especially on historical maps, the names and territories of the people who pre-dated colonial North America are nowhere to be found.

One California man, Aaron Carapella, has quietly turned his passion of learning more about Indian Nations into a solution to this gap of knowledge through his business, Tribal Nations Maps. The *Hownikan* spoke with the map maker about his business and passion for documenting the tribes of the Americas.

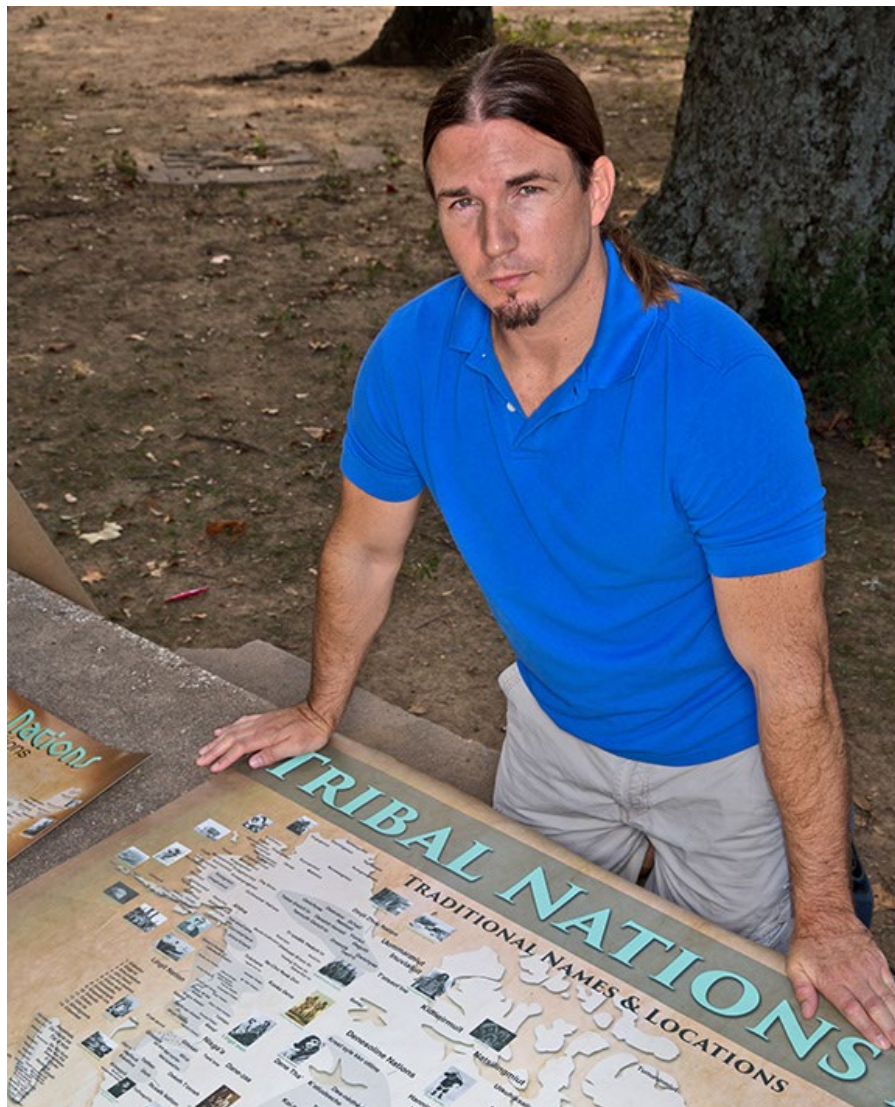
## How did you become interested in creating maps? When did that turn into focusing on tribal nations?

"My grandparents taught me to be proud of our Native roots since I was very small. Growing up in California, I would go to powwows and visit tribal museums looking for a good map of tribes to put on the wall in my room. At the time I was devouring books on Native history and culture, and was amazed that I couldn't find a good map that represented at least the majority of historical nations.

"As I learned more about local California tribes that are not federally recognized, I realized just how many tribes have been left off of maps. I decided to create a map of the U.S. tribal nations that represented all of our peoples, utilizing our own traditional names for ourselves, which I felt had also not been done before.

"After 14 years of on-and-off research, traveling to about 300 tribal communities and being pushed by many people to publish my work - I finally contacted the U.S. Copyright Office to see if this concept had ever been created before. They found that it had not. In 2012 I copyrighted my first map."

**What was the project that convinced you to turn it into a business?**



Aaron Carapella

"A couple years ago I was juggling a job, a newborn son and my maps. During my regular job I was getting calls constantly from tribes and others interested in my maps or offering suggestions for changes and I realized that I couldn't juggle both. I quit my job and threw all of my energy into creating maps of the entire Western Hemisphere, to show people that there are indigenous nations everywhere that need to be represented, and many of which are still here struggling for recognition and respect."

**You've visited more than 300 native communities in North America. How does visiting help in your work?**

"In my teens I was a member of many Native rights organizations, including the American Indian Movement, Save Puvungna and others fighting racist mascots and defending sacred sites. As an activist I was called to visit or help many communities throughout the Southwest, and while there I would talk to elders, visit tribal museums, historic sites, taking in everything I was learning. I would fill in gaps on my maps periodically. There is a deep connection to land that our tribes feel, and I feel much more confident documenting traditional names of peoples that I have met and heard from directly."

**Why do you feel this is important to do?**

"I don't want to diminish the efforts by tribes to document their own regions, but I feel that before these, there were no national maps that portrayed an accurate representation of Native homelands. There were many maps that showed 50 or 100 of the most 'famous' tribes. There was even one showing about 300 that was decent - but none utilized traditional names.

"My 'U.S. Nations' map has over 900 tribes on it, using both traditional and commonly-known names. This shows just how many had been ignored before.

"Every day I get emails and phone calls from people happy to see their nation on a map for the first time, and also calls from non-Natives who are happy to learn just how many of us there were-and are.

**Who are some of your customers or perhaps some of your most proud pieces to have created?**

"My customers include tribal governments and members, non-Natives, teachers, school districts, museums and all kinds of organizations that use these in educational settings. I am amazed that I have gone from activist in the streets to having created something used within school systems.

"I have now created tribal maps of the Americas, showing over 3,000 nations. This is a project that will be ongoing. I will be adding tribes for years, I am sure, as people bring more suggestions to me."

*To learn more about the work of Aaron Carapella's business, Tribal Nations Maps, visit his website at [www.tribalnationsmaps.com](http://www.tribalnationsmaps.com).*

## ATTENTION VETERANS!

The CPN Tribal Tag Agency would like to honor your service with our new CPN Vet Tags. Open to all CPN veterans residing in Oklahoma.

- DD214 and proper identification needed to apply
- Total tag fee - \$25; Renewal fee - \$15



Call the CPN Tribal Tag Agency at 405-273-1009 or visit [www.potawatomi.org/services/tag-office](http://www.potawatomi.org/services/tag-office) for more information.







# FireLake Golf Course closes to speed construction, full re-opening planned in 2017

To speed the course's full overhaul, FireLake Golf Course is set to close in May 2016.

"Initially we wanted to stay open through spring 2016 to give our high school and junior high golfers a place to practice during their season," said FireLake Golf Course Director Chris Chesser. "Tecumseh and Bethel high schools both play and practice here, and Shawnee Jr. High also practices here. As the only public course in the area, we felt it was important to give them that option."

With the high school golf season over and dry weather allowing for construction to continue unabated, the decision was made to close the front nine holes immediately to take advantage of the good conditions.

"We considered staying open and opening the back nine holes, which are currently closed for renovation, while we did the front nine," he explained. "With dry weather forecasted, we felt it best close the entire course and speed up the overall project."

The practice putting green and the driving range will remain open, though construction work on those may occur in the coming months. Updates will be posted on the FireLake Golf Course Facebook page as well as on [www.FireLakeGolf.com](http://www.FireLakeGolf.com).

While the full course's closure will start in May, the long awaited clubhouse and pro shop are tentatively



*A drone photo shows the back nine holes' construction at FireLake.*

scheduled to re-open in late May. The pro shop will be fully stocked and operational once open, meaning FireLake regulars will still be able to get golf supplies, shoes and other accessories without driving into Oklahoma City.

"It's an exciting time to be here. Working here as long as I have, seeing the new clubhouse come up and our back nine rebuilding both come to fruition, it's really great to see," said Chesser.

Also planned inside the clubhouse is a new eatery, the Sandwedge Grill,

which is tentatively slated to open when the back nine holes re-open.

"We're shooting to re-open the fully renovated back nine holes in late 2016, depending on whether the new grass we've planted is fully matured. Once we have golfers, we'll be feeding them at the Sandwedge Grill," said Chesser.

Though the golfers will be gone for a time, Chesser says that his seven staff members will remain on the job. FireLake has sped up construction times and cut some of the renovation's costs by putting its full time

staff to work on demolishing the course's old cart paths, dredging water hazards and removing trees.

"Our guys are going to be busier than ever actually. With all their normal mowing and watering of the new grass, they're also doing landscaping of areas that aren't part of the renovation and helping with the renovation itself," he noted.

If all goes well, Chesser explained that FireLake will be fully operational, with 18 holes, by mid-2017.

## FireLodge tribal youth update: May 2016

By Darin Greene, FireLodge Tribal Youth Coordinator

This time of year also brings our spring session at the Potawatomi Learning and Cultural Exchange. Our students will have plenty to do this month as school comes to a close.

The GET Native program will focus on educating students about several cultures including those living across North America. They will also be exposed to isolated languages of Oklahoma.

Tribal youth will be attending the Chickasaw Nation Reunion on May 13-14 in Kullihoma, Oklahoma, where they will join for dinner, stomp dance and stickball.

The GET Smart program continues to show success while tribal youth grades continue to rise. The students who are improving get special reward days, including a trip to FireLake Bowling Center and Arcade, swimming at Shawnee Splash Water Park, a lock-in and a pizza party.

This month, tribal youth will be learning about famous Mexican

Americans, celebrating Cinco de Mayo with a Mexican-style festival and preparing for college by working through applications and financial aid packets.

FireLake Wellness Center staff will be working with tribal youth to raise awareness about conditions like ALS, asthma, hearing and speech, stroke and multiple sclerosis. In conjunction with the GET Well and GET Aware initiatives, they will be encouraged to participate in the no-fried-food-Friday challenge.

Tribal youth will be starting the NFL PLAY 60 program as part of GET Fit, which includes a flag football league. The campaign, sponsored by the National Football League, encourages kids to be active for 60 minutes per day in order to combat childhood obesity.

In May the students also started a toy drive in honor of National Foster Care Month. Toys will be donated to CPN House of Hope.

If your child is interested in learning more about Native American culture or could benefit from our PLACE program, please contact me at [dgreene@potawatomi.org](mailto:dgreene@potawatomi.org).



*Even though school is coming to a close, the FireLodge tribal youth stay busy with plenty of activities.*



CPN Veterans report: May 2016



Bozho,

Citizen Potawatomi Nation has veterans from every branch of the armed forces, but being a sailor in the U.S. Navy is one of the most unique experiences you can get. The organization is filled with young men and women spending months at sea and weeks in strange ports all around the world.

People frequently ask these men and women what it is like living on a ship. A friend of mine wrote the following list for those who want to create an environment that resembles our tours at sea.

- 1. Buy a steel dumpster, paint it gray inside and out and live in it for six months. Hire someone to rock it for you.
- 2. Run all the pipes and wires in

your house exposed on the walls. I learned that this can come in handy during rough seas.

- 3. Repaint your entire house every month.
- 4. Renovate your bathroom by building a wall across the middle of the bathtub and move the shower head to chest level. When you take showers, make sure you turn off the water while you soap down.
- 5. Put lube oil in your humidifier and set it on high.
- 6. Once a month, take all major appliances apart and reassemble them.
- 7. Raise the thresholds and lower the headers of your doors so that you either trip or bang your head every time you pass through them.

- 8. Raise your bed within six inches of the ceiling so you can't turn over without getting out and getting back in.
- 9. Have your neighbor come over each day at 0500, blow a whistle loudly and yell, "Reveille, reveille, all hands heave out and trice up!"
- 10. Empty all the garbage bins in your house and sweep the driveway three times a day. Have someone repeat loudly, "Now sweepers, sweepers, man your brooms, give the ship a clean sweep fore and aft, and empty all cans and butt kits over the fantail!"
- 11. Make your family turn out all lights and go to bed at 2200 saying, "Now taps taps! Lights out! Maintain silence throughout the ship!" Then immediately have a truck crash into your house (for the benefit of aircraft carrier sailors).
- 12. Place a podium at the end of your driveway. Have your family stand watch at the podium, rotating at four-hour intervals. This is best done when the weather is the worst.
- 13. When there is a thunderstorm, find the biggest horse you can, put a two-inch mattress on his back and strap yourself to it. Turn him loose in a barn filled with snakes for six hours and try to sleep, then get up and go to work.

- 14. Make coffee using 18 scoops of budget-priced coffee grounds per pot. Let it simmer for five hours before drinking.
- 15. Have someone under the age of 10 give you a haircut with sheep shears.
- 16. Lock yourself and your family in the house for six weeks. Tell them at the end of the sixth week you are going to take them to Disney World for "liberty." At the end of the sixth week, inform them the trip to Disney World has been canceled because they need to get ready for an inspection and it will be another week before they can leave the house.

This is only a very small taste of life aboard one of America's fine ships. The food and health care is some of the best, you get to see a lot of the world - if it is a friendly port - and you'll have a lifetime of stories to tell. *Migwetch.*

The CPN Veterans Organization meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. (or as soon as you can get there) in the North Reunion Hall on the Potawatomi Powwow Grounds. All CPN veterans, spouses and their families are welcome. A meal is provided.

Two Potawatomi Midshipmen graduate from U.S. Naval Academy

Across the country, tribal members of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation will walk across stages and receive their diplomas to conclude the 2016 academic year. Among the dozens of graduates concluding their undergraduate studies this academic year are two Citizen Potawatomi at the U.S. Naval Academy. Caleb Anderson and Whitney Heer are both Oklahoma natives and will be among the graduates honored at the Navy Marine Corps Ceremonial Stadium on May 27, 2016. The *Hownikan* spoke to the Anderson, a Trombla family descendent, and Heer, a Toupin family descendent about their experiences at the Naval Academy and their plans for the future.

**Why did you decide to pursue a degree at the U.S. Naval Academy and the ensuing term of service after graduation?**

**Heer:** "I have wanted to be a pilot since I was eight years old and I also wanted to serve in the military. The Naval Academy offered me both of those opportunities as well as a college education."

**Anderson:** "As far back as I can remember I have had a passion for serving my country. While visiting my uncle one summer, he took me to the United States Naval Academy



Caleb Anderson



Whitney Heer

my in Annapolis, Maryland, and my goal from that moment on was to one day attend school there. The ability to serve and attain my college degree was an opportunity I would work hard for. I saw it as a chance to experience the best of both worlds and achieve my dream."

**Looking back at your time at the academy, what's something that sticks out in your mind that you know now, or have experienced, that you didn't think of when you began as a midshipman?**

**Anderson:** "It still surprises me how

far-reaching and powerful determination can be. When you set your mind to something and pursue it with everything in you, you can make things happen. I heard all of the reasons I would never be accepted in to the academy ringing in my ears with every step I took to attain the coveted letter of acceptance. I am still both humbled and thankful to have had this opportunity. While academy life is exhausting physically and mentally, I won't take for granted the opportunity I have been given. The brotherhood and lifelong friendships that have been formed over the last four

years are something I will forever be grateful for; they bring the awareness that we are all a very small part of a much bigger purpose."

**Heer:** "Your overall level of happiness is often what you make it. If you wake up and decide that you are unhappy, nothing will make you happy. If you get angry at small things that you cannot change, you will continue to be angry until you decide that you are happy."

**Upon your graduation what will you be doing or where might you be deployed?**

**Heer:** "Pensacola, Florida, for pilot training. I have wanted to be a pilot since I was eight years old. That was when I got my first airplane ride at OU Sooner Flight Academy. Since then I have loved everything about flying and can't wait until it is something I get to do every day."

**Anderson:** "Upon graduation, I will move to Pensacola for flight school. My intention was always to be a Navy pilot, but after much thought and research, I decided that for me, Naval Flight Officer was the road I wanted to take for my naval career. I am excited to begin this next chapter and look forward to what lies ahead."



# Potawatomi education update: May 2016

By Tesia Zientek,  
CPN Education Director

For Native Americans, the Cobell v. Salazar landmark class-action case was historic. Some of you understand the case in painful detail because you or your family was affected. Others may only be familiar with it because of the ubiquitous memes joking about incoming Cobell checks. Still others have no idea who or what I'm talking about.

Just in case, here's a quick refresher. After tribal lands were ruthlessly sliced into allotments in the 1880s, the United States government held over 54 million acres of allotted land in trust for the benefit of individual Native Americans. Income from government sale and lease of those lands and their extremely profitable natural resources—think oil, natural gas, timber, coal—was to be deposited into the U.S. Treasury General Account, held in the Individual Indian Money Trust, invested in common, and ultimately paid out to the beneficiaries of the IIM Trust.

Spoiler alert: that's not what happened. Unfortunately, and perhaps not to the surprise of many cynics, what the government promised and what it actually did were two entirely different things. Instead of payments going out to the Native American beneficiaries, the money was used to do things like reduce the national debt. Beyond this egregious mishandling, the government also made an attempt to cover their tracks by destroying most of the IIM Trust records.

In 1996, Elouise Cobell, a member of the Blackfeet Tribe, brought a class-action suit in hopes of forcing the United States to perform a full historical accounting of all IIM Trust funds, to correct and restate IIM ac-



*President Barack Obama meets with Elouise Cobell in the Oval Office.*

count balances, to fix broken trust management systems and to implement reform measures to ensure that this kind of exploitation did not happen again. After 16 years of hearings, trials, and appeals, an unprecedented \$3.4 billion settlement was reached in December 2009. This was a huge win for Cobell, the 500,000 class action lawsuit members she spoke for, and all of Indian Country.

So, what does all of this have to do with the Education Department? Among other things, the settlement authorized the Cobell Education Scholarship Fund, which aims to provide financial assistance to Native American students pursuing post-secondary education and training. The fund is partially funded by the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations. As of January 2016,

the buy-back program has transferred nearly \$35 million to the Cobell Education Scholarship Fund.

As Native Americans, all Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal members who are pursuing post-secondary (after-high school) education and can demonstrate an unmet need are eligible to apply for this scholarship. For the 2016 summer term, the May 1, 2016 deadline has passed. For the 2016–17 academic year, applications are due June 1, 2016. Award amounts vary based on unmet need. Students can find the application and more details at <http://cobellscholar.org>.

With all of this in mind, I have a challenge for our college-bound Citizen Potawatomi Nation students. First, read more about the Cobell lawsuit at the website above. I've given only

a superficial overview here, and it deserves a deeper look because it's an important part of our recent history as Native Americans. Second, apply for the Cobell Scholarship. According to the published records, only one Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member received a Cobell scholarship last academic year. I know from talking to several of you that there are more who desperately need this financial aid. As a tribe, let's not leave this money on the table. We can do better by Ms. Cobell, who fought tirelessly to ensure a better future for our young people.

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to the CPN Education Department at [college@potawatomi.org](mailto:college@potawatomi.org) or 405-275-3121.

## CPN donates to Shawnee's "Night on the Bricks"

On Friday, April 15, Pottawatomie County community members enjoyed a delicious dinner in downtown Shawnee. Safe Events for Families and Visit Shawnee, Inc. hosted the Redbud City "Night on the Bricks" dinner at Celebration of Life Park, complete with Jazz on the Bricks, the third Friday downtown block party and a community connection dinner.

The community connection dinner was catered by Local Dish and was free for 1,000 people who had tickets. The menu included tacos, chips and salsa, rice, beans and Mexican soda. Local churches sold baked goods for dessert.

CPN donated 100 tables and 500 chairs, set up by the CPN Housekeeping Department staff in the middle of Main and Philadelphia streets.

CPN Assistant Director of House-

keeping and Safety, Nick Nadeau, estimated that it took five staff members around eight hours to get the setup complete. CPN also donated water bottles for the dinner and gift cards for prizes. CPN's total contribution to the event totaled more than \$5,000.

Entertainment included Jazz on the Bricks, with performances by Oklahoma Baptist University Bison Jazz Combo, Shoulda Been Blonde, Bethel High School Jazz Band, Shawnee High School Jazz Band and the Mid-Del Jazz Orchestra, plus student art exhibits and free tickets to the Hornbeck Theatre's late show.

Redbud trees were planted to honor Shawnee's designation as the Redbud City of Oklahoma in 1941. City officials unveiled wayfinding signage and dedicated Tom Terry Park.

"VSI, the Avedis Foundation, Shawnee Garden Center and Shawnee



*Photographer Ed Bolt snapped this photo of the dinner crowd.*

Milling sponsored the purchase of redbud trees to display at the event and then plant in various locations throughout Shawnee to enhance the community," Danna Fowble, President of Visit Shawnee, Inc., said.

Other sponsors included the City of Shawnee, TS&H, Demco Printing and Ford Theatres.





Congratulations spring 2016 graduates!

High School

**Arianna Nicole Christmas**  
Sulphur Springs, Arizona  
Family Name: Bourassa  
Gravette High School

**Sara Nicole Boyden**  
Perry, Kansas  
Family Name: Ogee  
Perry/Lecompton High School

**Mary Baldwin Ligon**  
Madison, Georgia  
Family Name: Harridge  
Morgan County High School

**Amber Simes**  
Carlsbad, California  
Family Name: Fregon  
San Marcos High School

**Jenae Larson**  
Haines, Alaska  
Family Name: Anderson  
Haines High School

**Simon Ulysses Beach**  
West Seattle, Washington  
Family Name: Evans  
Chief Sealth International High School

**Hailey Eilers**  
Highlands Ranch, Colorado  
Family Name: Smith  
Mountain Vista High School

**Savanna Byington**  
West Valley City, Utah  
Family Name: Byington  
Syracuse High School

**Madilyn K. Patton**  
Sallisaw, Oklahoma  
Family Name: Toupin  
Sallisaw High School

**Megan Holzmeister**  
Overland Park, Kansas  
Family Name: Nadeau  
St. Thomas Aquanis High School

**Jake Pasion-Gonzales**  
Visalia, California  
Family Name: Burnett  
Redwood High School

**Mason Daniel Durdel**  
East Peoria, Illinois  
Family Name: Melot  
East Peoria Community HS

**Lauren Elizabeth Gloady**  
Fullerton, California  
Family Name: Betran  
Rosary Academy High School

**Kailey Mychal-Anne Losey**  
Olympia, Washington  
Family Name: Schmidt  
North Thurston High School

**Jarod O’Brien**  
Anchorage, Alaska  
Family Name: Duchane  
AJ Dimond High School

**Alissa Kathryn Schoeman**  
Fullerton, California  
Family Name: Betran  
La Habra High School

**Shelby Ann Anderson**  
Columbia Falls, Montana  
Family Name: Anderson  
Columbia Falls High School

**Chandler Hardy**  
Panama City, Florida  
Family Name: Curley  
Rutherford High School

**Aaron Hunter Capps**  
Byng, Oklahoma  
Family Name: Navarre  
Byng High School

**Elizabeth Patton**  
Lawrence, Kansas  
Family Name: Nadeau  
Free State High School

College/University

**Jennifer Bell**  
Midwest City, Oklahoma  
Family Name: Ogee  
University of Oklahoma  
MLS - Indigenous Peoples Law

**Joseph S. Holzmeister**  
Charlotte, North Carolina  
Family Name: Nadeau/Vieux  
University of North Carolina  
BS in Business Administration

**John William Shaw Jr.**  
Rockwood, Tennessee  
Family Name: Weld  
Tusculum College  
MS in Business Administration

**William Samuel Anderson**  
Carrollton, Georgia  
Family Name: Anderson  
University of North Georgia  
BS

**Joshua Glen Pyeatt "Wamego"**  
Navarre, Florida  
Family Name: Pettifer  
University of South Alabama  
MS - Physician Assistant

**Lexi Leigh Freeman**  
Shawnee, Oklahoma  
Family Name: Rhodd  
Oklahoma State University  
BS

**Mandy Rounkles**  
West Valley City, Utah  
Family Name: Rounkiles  
Utah State University  
BS in Sociology

**Colby Cooper**  
Topeka, Kansas  
Family Name: Vieux  
University of Kansas  
BS in Business Administration

**Natalie BrinJones**  
Spokane, Washington  
Family Name: LeClair  
Arizona State University  
BS in Criminology and Criminal Justice

**Tyson Douglas Holmes**  
Overbrook, Kansas  
Family Name: Weld/Kennedy  
Wichita State University  
BS in Nursing

**Alycia Dickman**  
Meridian, Idaho  
Family Name: Welch  
University of Pennsylvania  
BA in Sociology

**Brandon Edward Kessler**  
Prosper, Texas  
Family Name: Mitchell/Armstrong  
University of Arkansas  
BS in Businesses

**J. Davis Hobdy**  
Irving, Texas  
Family Name: Kahdot  
St. Mary's College of California  
BA in Performing Arts

**Emily Holzmeister**  
Tempe, Arizona  
Family Name: Nadeau  
Notre Dame University  
BS in Business

**Lakota Pearl Pochedley**  
Kent, Ohio  
Family Name: Slavin  
University of Texas at Austin  
MA in Cultural Studies  
ME in Secondary Social Studies

**Maxwell L. Weishan**  
San Diego, California  
Family Name: Vieux/Bertrand/  
Melot  
University of Arizona  
BA in Psychology

**Janae Levier**  
Topeka, Kansas  
Family Name: Levier  
Haskell Indian Nations University  
BS in Business Administration

**Chris Haxton**  
Stillwater, Oklahoma  
Family Name: Kime  
Oklahoma State University  
MS in Management Information Systems

**Kelly Rekiere**  
Boise, Idaho  
Family Name: Lewis  
Boise State University  
BS in Elementary Education

**Anita M. King**  
Sacramento, California  
Family Name: Toupin  
California State University  
BA in Sociology

**Alexander Olynik**  
Chesapeake Beach, Maryland  
Family Name: Bruno  
Norwich University  
BS in Biochemistry

**Stacey Bennett**  
Shawnee, Oklahoma  
Family Name: Weld  
St. Gregory’s University  
BS in Business

**Vivian Crayton Johnson**  
Silver Spring, Maryland  
Family Name: Muller  
Notre Dame of Maryland  
MS in Special Education

**Omar Rana**  
Broken Arrow, Oklahoma  
Family Name: Melott  
University of Kansas  
BA in History



Citizen Potawatomi Nation  
BY THE NUMBERS

DISTRICT 3

Information provided by Citizen  
Potawatomi Nation Tribal Rolls

|                             |       | Age by<br>population | 100+<br>1 |
|-----------------------------|-------|----------------------|-----------|
| Total Tribal Population     | 3,356 | 90-99                | 12        |
| Scholarships in Spring 2016 | 140   | 80-89                | 53        |
|                             |       | 70-79                | 160       |
| Dallas                      | 133   | 60-69                | 369       |
| Houston                     | 128   | 50-59                | 444       |
| Fort Worth                  | 105   | 40-49                | 465       |
| Austin                      | 98    | 30-39                | 572       |
| San Antonio                 | 69    | 20-29                | 624       |
| McKinney                    | 53    | 13-19                | 369       |
| Plano                       | 51    | 01-12                | 287       |



## Wadasé update: May 2016

By Bree Dunham,  
CPN Eagle Aviary

The weather finally feels like spring here in Oklahoma. All the birds at the aviary seem to know that winter has completely given way and that we have surely seen our last frost of the season. The ru-

Although Wadasé Zhabwé hasn't been back to the aviary since the first week in February she has been busy this spring as well. She continues to frequent the area around Horseshoe Lake near Harrah but within the last few weeks a new place has gained her attention. There are several reservoir sites less than 20 miles north

able to provide positive sightings and new information in the future about her behavior in the wild.

As Wadasé molts this spring, the feathers that are replaced on her head and tail will be nearly all white. Although it is hard not to think of her as that young eagle we first received,

we have learned, but we know we are closer to the end of that data-gathering period than we are the beginning. We hope to be able to continue to share Wadasé's story through many more seasons and generations.

As always we encourage you to



*The many phases of Wadasé's growth from spring 2013 to spring 2016.*

by-throated hummingbirds arrived the first week of April and there are scissor-tailed flycatchers perched in pairs along the highline wires lining the driveway. The pair of Canadian geese who nested in the front pecan tree in past years has returned to nest again. Today the mother is sitting higher in the nest than usual and the father seems to be more protective of his space than in days past, even chasing off doves that land near the tree. This is a good indication that goslings are hatching. They will stay in the nest until they all hatch and the following day they will make the incredible jump to the ground to follow their parents to the creek. The great-horned owls that have previously nested in the big pecan hollow out back unfortunately did not return this year but for the first time since the aviary's construction, the turkey hens have laid eggs and have begun incubating in the pasture.

of the aviary between highways 102 and 177 that she has taken an interest in recently. Wadasé has recorded dozens of points near several small bodies of water listed as Quawpaw Reservoirs in an average of 12 square miles of territory. Although that is a relatively small area when talking about the range she can now travel, we still have had little success in spotting her after checking telemetry and traveling directly to those locations. The main obstacle in locating her continues to be limited access into where she frequents. Since her release she has consistently chosen to stay in areas where there are very few people and access points. But those trips to the new locations weren't completely unsuccessful. We have had the chance to meet some great people and talk to several landowners. We even spoke with a few who think they may have seen her fishing in the reservoirs. Armed with new information and a recent photo of Wadasé, they will hopefully be

at that time named Penojés, she is now a young adult. This next year will be spent defining her summer territory. When fall rolls around she will choose a mate. Together, they will choose a nest site and build a nest that they will return to each year. First year nests tend not to be successful in producing young, but it isn't completely out of the question. She continues to prove the odds are in her favor.

We will continue to check her telemetry every three days. However, those days in between seem to take forever to pass by. When the time comes to finally download the information, we are as nervous as we were waiting on the first batch of telemetry data when Wadasé was initially released. We know that her GPS backpack has functioned much longer than we ever imagined and now we are just holding our breath, hoping and praying, for the unit to provide us telemetry into nesting season. We are so thankful for all the data and all that

keep your eyes out for Wadasé if you are near the areas she frequents. For more information about the CPN Eagle Aviary or to read previous Wadasé updates visit [www.potawatomih heritage.org](http://www.potawatomih heritage.org). Send your encounters with Wadasé or any other eagles in Oklahoma or wherever you may be to us at [aviary@potawatomih heritage.org](mailto:aviary@potawatomih heritage.org).



*Scan this QR code to  
learn more about Wadasé.*

## Hownikan

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, Oklahoma

### CPN Executive Committee

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**Vice-Chairman:** Linda Capps

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**All correspondence should be directed to *Hownikan*,**

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801

Questions: [hownikan@potawatomih heritage.org](mailto:hownikan@potawatomih heritage.org) or 800-880-9880

**Address changes should be sent to Citizen Potawatomi Tribal Rolls,**

1601 S. Gordon Cooper Drive, Shawnee, OK 74801



# FireLake Express Grocery opens McCloud location

Residents living in and around the City of McCloud will make a shorter trip the next time they want to buy groceries. As of April 25, those long hauls will be a thing of the past as FireLake Express Grocery officially opens its doors for business. The store is an enterprise of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, whose tribal jurisdiction includes much of Pottawatomie County.

“Northwest Pottawatomie County has a growing population and we believe that we can add value by saving our customers that live in that area time and money on fuel and all of their grocery needs,” said FireLake Director Richard Driskell. “As time goes by, you will notice fuel and grocery prices will go down in the McCloud area due to us keeping everyone more competitive.”

Located just north of Interstate 40 on the northeast corner of Westech and McCloud roads, FireLake Express McCloud will be the closest grocery store for the residents of the city and nearby communities like Dale, Bethel Acres, Harrah and Newalla.

“The Nation is very excited for our newest enterprise, FireLake Express Grocery McCloud, to offer services to the city. It’ll be the first time since the late 1960s when Cycle Groceries closed that they’ve had a grocery



FireLake Express McCloud is the town’s first grocery store in decades.

store here,” noted CPN Vice-Chairman Linda Capps.

FireLake Express Grocery McCloud is open seven days a week, 24 hours a day and employs 20 full time and 77 part time staff. It has a full service bakery and a deli serving Charley Biggs Chicken. The store will also include a smoke shop with a drive thru window, a beer cave as well as 10 automobile fueling stations offering 100 percent gasoline, 10 percent ethanol, super unleaded and diesel.

It is the third FireLake grocery store following the successful FireLake Discount Foods, located just south of Shawnee, Oklahoma, and FireLake Express Grocery Tecumseh. For the longtime grocery and travel stop director, the opening of a store for customers was a long time coming.

“Opening day is very exciting and nerve wracking because we want a store to be perfect when we open,” said Driskell, who has overseen all

three grocery openings in his long tenure with the tribe. “We are always excited about opening a new store where we have put a lot of hard work and time into it.”

To learn more about FireLake Express Grocery McCloud, please visit [cpn.news/fdfmcloud](http://cpn.news/fdfmcloud) to follow all the weekly grocery store specials and savings available.



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# Potawatomi academic achiever Kylie Stewart

*The following article was originally run on [www.Vype.com](http://www.Vype.com) by author Brad Heath. It is reprinted here with their express written permission.*

Tecumseh High School junior Kylie Stewart is making a difference in her local community and around the world.

As a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and a student at Tecumseh High School, Kylie Stewart has felt a responsibility to her tribe and her classmates to be more than just a student, but to have an impact wherever she can in life.

In the classroom Stewart carries a 4.0 GPA and is focused on making the most of her opportunities.

"I am currently involved in the National Honor Society, Oklahoma Indian Student Honor Society and Beta Club," said Stewart. "I also volunteer with the National Honor Society and my church, the Tecumseh Pentecostal Church of God."

Through the church her impact on another tribe more than 6,000 miles away was felt when she took a mission trip to Panama.

"My mission trip to Panama was definitely a life changing experience. While we were there we helped build a church and a school for the Ngobe-Buglé Indian tribe living in the mountains. The one thing that left the biggest impact on my life was seeing how happy these kids were

even though they didn't have much. No matter what was going on they always managed to have a smile on their face. These wonderful people taught me to cherish even the smallest things in life."

The tribe will continue to help Stewart with her education in college. She plans to attend St. Gregory's University in Shawnee, Oklahoma.

"The Potawatomi tribe has been a tremendous help in furthering my education. The tribe has a contract with St. Gregory's that will completely pay for the four years that I will be attending there," said Stewart.

Before she heads off on another mission trip or off to college, Stewart will graduate from Tecumseh High School, a place she will always call home.

"The thing I like most about being a student at Tecumseh High School is all of the AP classes they offer. While these classes are challenging, they help me prepare for my future in college. My favorite class is AP U.S History, also known in school as APUSH. My favorite teacher would have to be Mrs. Ozment, my trigonometry teacher."

There's little doubt Stewart will be successful in college and in life.

"It is very important to me to be successful in anything I do because I represent the Potawatomi tribe."



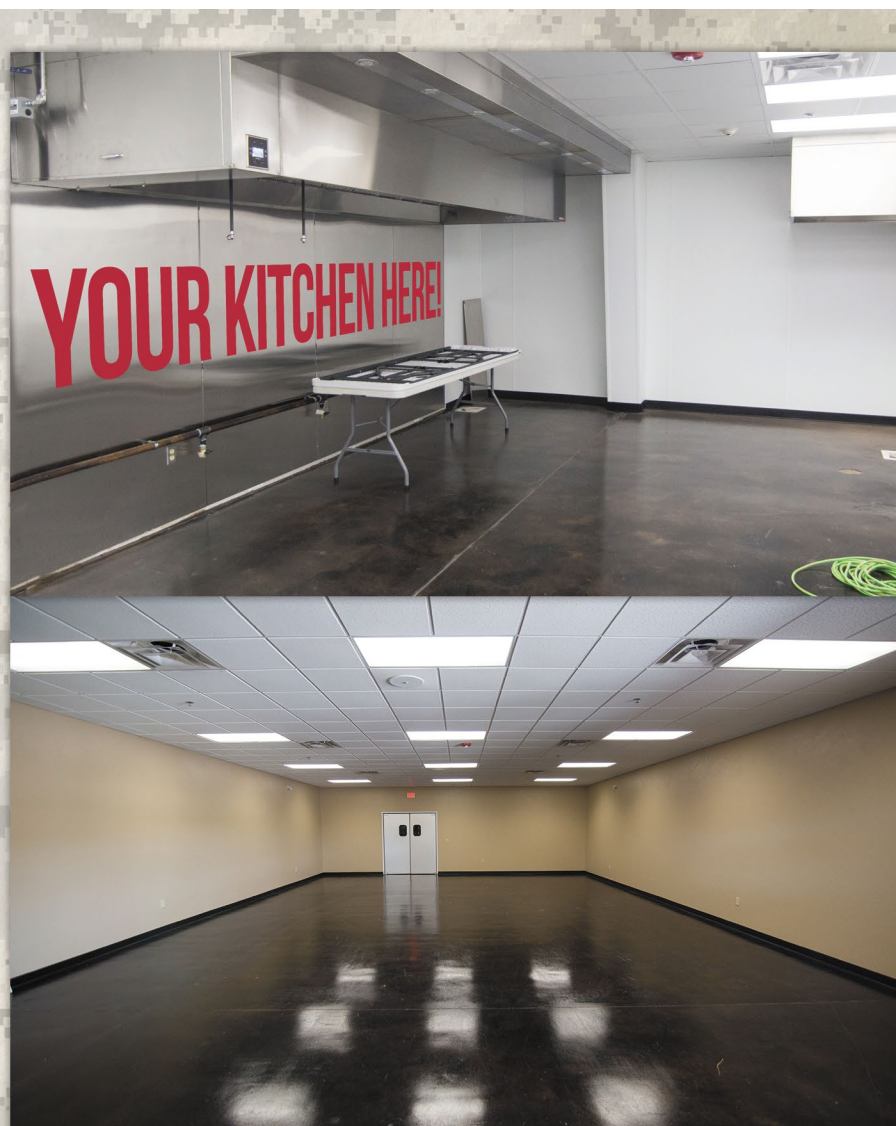
*Kylie Stewart poses with Ngobe-Buglé Indian children during her Panama mission trip.*

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# Tribal police recognized for community impact at Oklahoma ethics awards

The Oklahoma Business Ethics Consortium’s 2016 OK Ethics State-wide Awards recognizes businesses, nonprofits and government entities whose efforts promote Oklahoma values and positively impact its communities. In the category of community impact, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Tribal Police Department was honored for its influence in the communities it serves in Pottawatomie County.

In a letter recommending the department’s nomination for the awards, Pottawatomie County Sheriff Mike Booth wrote that “as the elected sheriff of Pottawatomie County, my office and deputies work hand-in-hand with the CPN police department on a daily basis. Their commitment to an ethical community policing program has benefitted all the people of the county who are sworn to protect and serve.”

In 2012, Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s Tribal Police Department implemented a new community policing plan in its 900-square mile jurisdiction based upon four guiding principles:

**Get in front of it** - Peace is more important than control. Unfortunately, many if not most police agencies focus more on response than prevention and as a result judge their success by the number of arrests and convictions rather than crime rates and the perceptions of the citizens.

**Make every decision for the right reason** - Motive is everything. Every officer must think about “why” they are deciding on a particular course of action. The welfare of the individual and the larger group must be the driving motivation, never the officer’s ego or anger.

**Maintain the highest standards** - Behavior is the cornerstone of cred-



*Dispatch Supervisor Stephanie Brewer, Police Chief James Collard Ph.D., Lt. Mike Hendrickson, Major Jody Opela and Assistant Director of Support Services Sheila McDaniel pose with the CPNPD ethics award.*

ibility. The choices officers make both on and off the job are critical to their personal authority and the authority of the institutions they serve.

**Be kind** - Do not judge people. Occupying a position of law enforcement authority requires police officers to disagree, intervene, and sometimes use force to stop an inappropriate action(s). However, do not be naïve. Police officers are still dealing with very dangerous people and situations.

The purpose of these principles is to help tribal police officers, who in many cases operate as southern Pottawatomie County’s primary first

responders, protect and serve the diverse populations and properties of a largely rural jurisdiction. Tribal police officers must also mindfully navigate diverse cultural and economically challenged populations during their shifts, making a cogent set of operating principles key in maintaining trust and cooperation with the people they serve.

“The CPNPD’s focus on engaging all members of the communities we patrol has been beneficial for their officers and our own,” wrote Tecumseh Police Chief Gary Crosby. “When one makes a traffic stop or responds to an emergency call, they know that a sister-agency will be there immedi-

ately as back up. This trust has also trickled down to the citizens in our town, who often see tribal police officers as trustworthy as those of the Tecumseh Police Department.”

The Oklahoma Business Ethics Consortium is a non-profit, professional organization dedicated to promoting Oklahoma values of integrity at work. With nearly 1,000 individual members representing approximately 200 organizations, chapters in Tulsa and Oklahoma City host monthly luncheon forums on topics related to business ethics. More information is available at [www.okethics.org](http://www.okethics.org).



## WHERE TO STAY DURING FESTIVAL 2016

IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO ATTEND THE FAMILY REUNION FESTIVAL, START MAKING RESERVATIONS FOR LODGING. HERE ARE SOME PLACES IN PROXIMITY TO TRIBAL HEADQUARTERS.

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(405) 275-8880
- La Quinta Inn and Suites**  
5401 Enterprise Court  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
(405) 275-7930
- Quality Inn**  
4900 N. Harrison  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
(405) 275-4404
- Comfort Inn & Suites**  
5400 Enterprise Court  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
(405) 273-8667

- CPN RV Park**  
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Cooper Drive  
Shawnee, OK 74801  
(405) 878-5835
- Days Inn**  
5107 N. Harrison  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
(405) 275-6720
- Motel 6**  
4981 N. Harrison  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
(405) 275-5310
- Super 8 Motel**  
5104 N. Harrison  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
(405) 275-0089
- Heart of Oklahoma Expo RV Park**  
Highway 177 & Leo  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
(405) 275-7020
- Budget Inn**  
14204 US-177  
Shawnee, OK 74804  
(405) 275-8430



# Day of Champions football and softball camp returns to CPN June 27-28

Each June, campers comprised of Potawatomi tribal members and children of Tribal employees gather at FireLake Ball Fields to take part in the now annual tradition of the Day of Champions Football and Sports Skills Camp.

Campers spend two days going through drills, playing games and learning leadership from coaches with a vast array of professional, collegiate and high school experience. In 2015, the camp expanded its offerings to include softball instruction for numerous female participants who wanted to attend. A total of 185 campers attended, with 30 female campers joining in. Approximately 80 percent were Native American, 55 percent of those were Citizen Potawatomi.

- Football skills instruction includes position-specific drills, strength and conditioning, nutritional instruction and individual competitions.

- Softball instruction includes pitching, catching and softball skills. Sports skills includes hand-eye coordination, speed and agility training, strength and conditioning, nutritional instruction..

On the second day of the camp, June 28, parents or guardians are encouraged to attend and participate in camp events with their campers.

“Last year we had 65-75 parents on the field for fantasy day. We had a parent that attended out first camp as a 18 year old, 11 years ago. He brought his son to camp last year and said he wanted his son to learn the same values that were instilled in him,” said CPN’s Sarah Lawerance, who organizes the event.

The camp is led by former collegiate coach Ken Heupel and his son, former University of Oklahoma stand-

out and current Utah State University Offensive Coordinator Josh Heupel. The camp’s other staff members are all former collegiate or professional players and coaches.

Applications are still available for this year’s June 27-28 camp, which takes place immediately following the annual CPN Family Reunion Festival. Students from first through eighth grade are eligible to participate at \$15 per camper. Camp runs from 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. each day.

Campers will receive lunch each day, a camp T-shirt and only need to bring a bottle of water with their name on it. Girls and boys are encouraged to attend; with both groups able to receive either football or softball sports skills instructions.

To download the full registration form, visit <http://cpn.news/DOC16> or contact Sarah Lawerance at [skessler@potawatomi.org](mailto:skessler@potawatomi.org).



*Campers will have an opportunity to receive football and softball instruction from professional, collegiate and high school coaches.*



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Many of our tribal children are placed in non-native homes when taken into state custody due to the lack of foster families.

With the Indian Child Welfare Act under attack and scrutiny, it is vital, now more than ever, for tribal children to have initial placement in tribal foster homes.

If you are an Oklahoma Resident willing to open your heart and home to our children in out-of-home placements, please contact our office for an application packet.

For those living outside of Oklahoma, contact our office for further information on becoming a tribal home in your state of residence.

**FireLodge Children and Family Services**  
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Tribal Chairman - John “Rocky” Barrett

Bozho, Nikan  
(Hello, my friend)

On the front page of this *Hownikan* there is a story about the decision in the arbitration hearings under the Tribal Gaming Compact. This decision will have a far reaching impact for the tribes here in Oklahoma, and perhaps in many other states.

Former Oklahoma Supreme Court Justice Daniel J. Boudreau was the arbitrator. He used the “test” described in a United States Supreme Court case from 36 years ago called *White Mountain Apache Tribe v. Bracker*, 448 U.S. 136 (1980).

What makes this decision so interesting is the completely different set of facts in our case against the Oklahoma Tax Commission that still led the judge to use the same principle of law to decide in our favor. Here are the “bare bone” facts of our case:

1. The Oklahoma Tax Commission billed us for more than \$26 million in back taxes after 12 years of agreeing we owed no tax and instructing us to write in “0” under the “tax owed” portion of the sales tax report. All sales were on federal Indian land owned by the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. No sales occurred in Oklahoma.
2. We did not pay the state demands, so the Oklahoma Tax

Commission threatened to take away our liquor licenses, tax permits and mixed beverage licenses from the Grand Casino and FireLake Casino, even though most of the tax claim was for sales at the grocery store located miles away. It intended to punish us for not acting as a state sales tax collector.

Our previous law suit with the Oklahoma Tax Commission in 1991 resulted in a U.S. Supreme Court prohibition against the state from trying to come on reservation land to collect its taxes. This time the state thought it had a weapon to force us to pay: harm casino revenue by denying us a liquor license. When the CPN still did not pay, Oklahoma sent a “closure order” ordering us to *shut down every tribal business* – casinos, stores, bowling, golf, fuel, ballfields, fry bread taco, pizza, gun store, sporting clays, concrete, graphics, arena, restaurants and the gift shop. We then asked for arbitration of the dispute under the gaming compact rule which requires the state to submit to arbitration.

The facts in the Arizona case are very different from ours. The *White Mountain Apache Tribe v. Bracker* is a case in which the Supreme Court of the United States held that Arizona’s taxes against a non-Indian contractor working exclusively for the Apache Tribe on that tribe’s reservation were preempted by federal law, in other words, illegal. Here are the players in this case:

The Fort Apache Timber Company (FATCO) is a tribal enterprise created by the White Mountain Apache Tribe. It contracted with the Pinetop Logging Company (Pinetop) in 1969 to transport

and sell lumber harvested by FATCO on the Fort Apache Indian Reservation. The lumber itself is harvested from land held in trust by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for the benefit of the tribe. The BIA has a contract with FATCO to harvest the trees, but the BIA controlled which trees would be taken, the equipment to be used, where and what roads would be used and logging truck speeds. Pinetop vehicles do not leave the reservation, and only used roads built and maintained by BIA. In 1971, the Arizona Highway Department sought to collect a motor carrier tax and a fuel tax from Pinetop. Pinetop paid under protest, and both Pinetop and the tribe sued to recover the taxes. The Arizona Supreme Court ruled for Pinetop and the state appealed. The Arizona Supreme Court refused to hear the appeal so the United States Supreme Court agreed to hear the appeal. They ruled for Pinetop based on “federal preemption.”

Where our case is the same as the *White Mountain Apache v. Bracker* case is in the federal preemption “test” used by the Court. It asked if the state tax law in question regulates an area already sufficiently covered by federal law; if so, the federal law would preempt it. The Supreme Court found that the timber operation and the revenues it generated on the Fort Apache reservation already came under extensive federal regulation. Therefore, no room remained for additional state regulation.

Next the test asked if the Arizona state law threatened tribal sovereignty and economic viability. The Court found that as the state had no purpose for the tax other than raising general revenue, it would provide no services

with the money generated that justified the tax on tribal activities. Finally, the decision found that the taxes’ burden ultimately would fall on the tribe, and that the timber industry is crucial to the economic viability of the tribe’s governmental programs. The state taxes thus hindered tribal sovereignty and economic development on the reservation.

In the *Citizen Potawatomi Nation v. Oklahoma Tax Commission* arbitration ruling, the judge ruled that the state had “no unmet burden” in providing governmental services to the CPN, in other words, we don’t ask the state for anything or cost them anything extra. We provide our own water, sewer, police, courts, fire protection, roads, medical facilities, education, housing and government. Just as in the *Apache* case, no room exists for additional state regulation and their only purpose in collecting taxes was to raise money for use elsewhere. This tax scheme threatens the economic viability of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation and hinders tribal sovereignty and economic development.

It seemed to me during the long legal process that the state had another objective: intimidation of other tribes. In fact, the state forced three other tribes in the state to sign a new “tax compact” to limit tribal tax collections from an on-reservation McDonalds to one tenth of one percent, or else face a long and expensive legal fight like ours.

Our legal costs to date are in excess of \$1.5 million. The state has some risk in this kind of behavior. The Model State Tribal Gaming Compact, which was the legal basis for our request for arbitration, says the state will

have to pay our legal costs if it continues this fight just to cost us money and punish us. In my opinion, that point will be reached if the Oklahoma Tax Commission files an appeal of the arbitration ruling if it is upheld by the federal courts.

We look forward to a time when we can proceed with the business of tribal services and government without fear of the state or its subdivisions. I truly believe that time is coming. The coming elections in the City of Shawnee will surely yield a city government that recognizes the value of a partnership with the CPN. Seven out of every ten jobs in our county are generated from tribal business. The economic study done for the legal battle and introduced as evidence found that every \$1 the state taxes us will cost the state \$1.10. Former Governor of Oklahoma Brad Henry testified for us in the arbitration hearing. He was in office when he and I signed the gaming compact. He unequivocally stated that it was not the intent of the state to collect any tax beyond the gaming taxes described in the agreement. In fact, he stated, “what we received from the compact was a windfall.” We are grateful to him for that testimony. It refuted the present governor’s staff testimony that the gaming agreement intended to allow taxation of other tribal economic activities. Better days are coming.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as tribal chairman.

*Migwetch,*  
John “Rocky” Barrett  
*Keweoge*  
“He Leads Them Home”  
Tribal Chairman



Vice-Chairman - Linda Capps

Good news message

I recently sent out an email to our legislators giving them additional details on Arbitrator Daniel J. Boudreau’s ruling from April 5, 2016. Basically the ruling stated that the State of Oklahoma cannot seek to collect taxes from our tribe on sales to non-tribal members at its casinos and other businesses. The arbitrator further ordered the state

to stop threatening the tribe with enforcement actions for allegedly failing to comply with Oklahoma state tax laws.

The arbitrator’s exact language is, “I hereby presently enjoin the State from taking any further action to divest the Nation’s Compact facilities on the right to sell and serve alcoholic beverages or threaten other enforcement actions against them on the ground that the Nation does not comply with the State’s sales tax laws”.

There is a fully detailed article on the front page of this edition of the *Hownikan*.

We have Chairman Barrett to thank for his persistence in “righting the wrong” of the

State of Oklahoma in their hot pursuit to collect what is not rightfully theirs. We also need to give praise to Greg Quinlan, CPN attorney and his staff, Jennifer Bell, CPN public information director and her staff, and many of our directors, managers and department staff members for their contribution in gathering data and/or providing testimony. We cannot leave out a “thank you” to our outside legal representation from Crow & Dunlevy. I especially want to acknowledge Michael McBride III of that firm.

Yes, the judgment is excellent news to our Nation! I think it is ironic that our very own employees played such a significant part during the litigation of the case. All their work on the case has been in

addition to day-to-day duties that must be performed. For the final hearing of *Citizen Potawatomi Nation vs. the State of Oklahoma*, dated February 16, 2016, fourteen of our people were called to testify as witnesses. After that, some were called back to testify again. There were other times that our employees were involved with giving evidence for the Oklahoma Tax Commission. This is just a small sample of the hard work that has gone into the whole litigation process.

The real reason for this column is to let our readers know that the effort behind this “good news victory” has been a tremendous team undertaking. I view the whole process as winning a national championship. You know

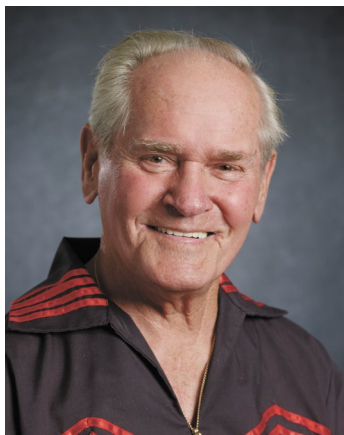
how exciting that is; whether it’s football, basketball, baseball soccer, debate, horse racing or whatever the favorite event might be.

The victory in preventing the State of Oklahoma to collect state sales taxes for goods and services sold on Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal trust land is far more important to me than any national championship could ever be.

I cherish the opportunity to serve as your vice-chairman. I delight in good news for the benefit of our people.

*Migwetch,*  
Linda Capps  
405-275-3121 office  
405-650-1238 cell





## District 1 - Roy Slavin

*Bozho;*

Be sure to mark your calendars for May 21, 2016 for the joint meeting of District 1 and 4. Jon Boursaw and I

are joining for this meeting at the Ararat Shrine, 5100 Ararat Drive, Kansas City, Missouri from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Gifts for the wisest, youngest and furthest travelled will be given. We will have two guest speakers and Charles Clark, director of tribal rolls, who will be available for those who need to renew or get an ID card.

Lunch will be served at noon.

When you receive your invitation it requests you to RSVP. This request is made so we can prepare food for those attending. If you RSVP that you plan to attend, and we hope you do, please make every effort to do so as it is very costly and wasteful if you RSVP and don't show up. If you have any questions you can always reach me at toll free 1-888-741-5767.

Another reminder, Festival is coming up soon, the last weekend of June, so if you

haven't made your reservation you should do so, as the hotels fill up quick. See the ad on page 16 of this paper for nearby lodging locations. Also, the CPN is hosting the Gathering of Nations from July 28-30, 2016. I will update information as it becomes available via email. For those of you who will be flying in, the closest airport is Will Rogers World Airport in Oklahoma City. Shawnee is about 35 miles east of Oklahoma City along Interstate 40. Most events

will take place inside the fully air-conditioned FireLake Arena. Again, hope to see everyone there.

I will close this article as always with a request for your contact information. Email [rlavin@potawatomi.org](mailto:rlavin@potawatomi.org) or snail mail Roy Slavin, 6630 N. Revere Dr., Kansas City, Missouri 64151.

*Igwen*

Roy (*Netagtege*)  
(Always Planting)  
[rlavin@potawatomi.org](mailto:rlavin@potawatomi.org)



## District 2 - Eva Marie Carney

*Bozho nikanek*  
(Hello friends)!

Mid-March in District 2 featured a visit to the archives of the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) on a Friday and a medallion beading class and lunch in the District 2 office on Saturday. *Migwetch* to all who could join in and make it a special family weekend. Here are links to event photos: Archives visit - <http://cpn.news/nmai> and beading class: <http://cpn.news/bead05>.

*Igwen* (heartfelt thanks) to Virginian (AKA former Texan) Bob Richey/Shaweno for his able and patient beading instruction. Bob has been an incredible asset to our people in District 2! We each came to the beading class with differing levels of knowledge and ability and Bob adapted his instruction to what each of us needed. I'm looking forward to photos of completed medallions and/or seeing completed work sewn onto moccasins and bags at the Family Festival in June, the Gathering of Nations in

July or the District 2 Fall Feast, which is set for Saturday, Nov. 12.

Later in March I was able to attend the installation into the Nation to Nation exhibit at the NMAI of our 1836 treaty with the United States signed at Yellow River. I joined Kevin Gover, who heads the NMAI, Tribal Chairman Rocky Barrett and Vice-Chairman Linda Capps, Cultural Heritage Center Director Kelli Mosteller Ph.D. and CPN Archivist Blake Norton, as well as Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation Tribal Council Chairwoman Liana Onnen and PBPN council members Carrie O'Toole and Thomas M. Wabnum, among others, for a close inspection of the treaty before it was installed.

A legible treaty image is here: <http://cpn.news/treaty>. I noted that some of those who signed the 1836 treaty were women, but the transcript of the treaty, made in 1904 and republished on the Smithsonian website (<http://cpn.news/treaty1>), rewrites history, reflecting that each signatory is a "he."

And here's a link to a number of excellent Associated Press photos taken that day: <http://cpn.news/apphotos>. The 1836 treaty will be part of the Nation to Nation exhibit through the early fall and I'd be happy to coordinate a group tour and lunch



Thomas M. Wadnum, Eva Marie Carney and Kevin Gover inspect the archives at NMAI. - Photo by Paul Morigi, AP. Images for the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian.

one weekend if there is interest, so let me know if that's appealing.

I have posted dates and details for the Family Reunion Festival and the Gathering of Nations, both to be held in Shawnee this year in June and July, respectively, on [www.evamariecarney.com](http://www.evamariecarney.com) under 'Calendar'. I will add more details as I get them. Please let me know of your interest in competing with a District 2 team in the hand games competition on the Friday night (June 24) of the Festival. I am looking forward to seeing many of you

this summer – and, since I'm writing this in April for the May publication, I'm eager for the opportunity to visit with new and old friends at the Loveless Café in Nashville during our lunch and family meeting there on Saturday, May 7.

Please note my new mailing address. The March beading class was the last event in my CPN office downtown – I closed the office and have opened up a PO Box for mail. Have laptop will travel! My toll free phone number remains the same.

My best for a delightful month ahead and *migwetch*! thank you for the honor of representing you.

Kind regards and *bama pi* (until later),

Eva Marie Carney  
*Ojindiskwe*  
Legislator, District #2  
Citizen Potawatomi Nation  
PLEASE NOTE NEW MAILING ADDRESS:  
2200 North George Mason Drive # 7307  
Arlington, VA 22207  
[ecarney@potawatomi.org](mailto:ecarney@potawatomi.org)  
Toll Free: 866-961-6988  
[evamariecarney.com](http://evamariecarney.com)



## JOIN US!

For the District 1 & 4 Legislative Meeting with Representatives Jon Boursaw and Roy Slavin

**SATURDAY  
MAY 21 AT 10AM-3PM**

**ARARAT SHRINE TEMPLE**

5100 ARARAT DR, KANSAS CITY, MO 64192

RSVP by May 17, 2016 with Jon Boursaw at [jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org](mailto:jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org) or 785-861-7272  
Roy Slavin at [rlavin@potawatomi.org](mailto:rlavin@potawatomi.org) or 816-507-2861

## CPN DISTRICT 2 LUNCH AND BUSINESS MEETING IN NASHVILLE!

Legislator Eva Marie Carney invites you and your family to a District 2 lunch and business meeting in Nashville!

**Saturday May 7<sup>TH</sup> | 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM**

Harpeth Room at The Loveless Café  
8400 Tennessee Highway 100, Nashville, TN 37221.

The facility is wheelchair accessible and there is disability parking available.

Space is limited so please send your RSVP today to [ecarney@potawatomi.org](mailto:ecarney@potawatomi.org) or by calling Eva's toll free message line: 866.961.6988, with names and ages (if under 18) of attendees by April 25, 2016.

If once you RSVP your plans or number in your group changes please let Eva know by email or phone – we don't want any seat to go unfilled!

**Please bring your questions and your family stories!**





District 3 - Bob Whistler

Bozho (Hello)

For those of you who have seen Facebook information from our CPN Cultural Heritage Center Director Kelli Mosteller Ph.D., you have read that she is getting a community vegetable garden together. One of the items she has mentioned are the ‘Three Sisters’ which have been Native American crops in North America for over 7,000 years. The three sisters are planted together

and consist of corn, beans and squash. The three are planted so that they complement each other, relative to sunlight needs, and how they interact. One layout is to plant the corn in the center with beans and squash on the perimeter. Squash can be troublesome. They can cross pollinate. So for very good results, you need separation of the mounds used to plant the squash. In each mound you normally put about five or six seeds. If room allows, and for great support, you can alternate bean plants with the squash mounds. In your minds’ eye, think of the garden being in a circle with the bean plants at positions north, east, south and west. The squash would be in between each of the major directions. The corn is in the center. The corn and the

beans will grow towards the sky. The squash is a great ground cover and will fill in around the beans and corn. When the season is over, and you have finished harvesting the crops, their vines and leaves will provide the nitrogen and other natural elements to help fertilize the soil for the following year’s planting.

In some areas, to provide a snack or natural pesticide for birds, sun flowers may be planted on the north side of the garden. The sun flower seeds are more attractive to the birds than the three sisters seeds. By planting the sun flowers on the north side, since they can be extremely tall, you are not depriving the three sisters of the sunlight they need to grow.

April is the month when

many gardens get started, but given our zone seven weather here in north Texas, May is not too late to still do a planting.

For those coming to Family Festival June 24-26, I urge you to stop by the cultural heritage center or sneak a peek at the garden which is located at the eagle aviary. This is a wonderful opportunity for many urban dwellers and their children to see how a garden is laid out for the best utilization of the land in this part of the country.

I am looking forward to Family Festival and seeing many of you there this year. You still have time to get basic regalia together for use at Grand Entry on Saturday night. So get your shawl or ribbon shirt and join in where we honor the Creator,

our veterans, culture and heritage.

As your representative, I am honored to serve and proud that you have chosen me. I am here to help where possible. If there is a tribal item or area where you think you need my assistance, please contact me.

*Gigawabamin’ nagutch,*  
(see you later)

Bob Whistler  
*Bmashi* (He soars)  
Citizen Potawatomi Nation  
112 Bedford Rd, Ste 116  
Bedford, TX 76022  
817-282-0868 Office  
817-229-6271 Cell  
817-545-1507 Home



District 4 - Jon Boursaw

**District 1 and 4 joint meeting Saturday, May 21:** Just a reminder for CPN members in the greater Kansas City area and the eastern portion of Kansas that I will be co-hosting a joint district meeting with Roy Slavin, representative for District 1 on Saturday, May 21 at 10 a.m. The meeting will be held at the Ararat Shine located 5100 Ararat Drive, Kansas City, Missouri. The Ararat Shrine is located off of I-435 at exit 65 (Eastwood Parkway), which is just

south of I-70 on the east side of Kansas City. Turn west on to Eastwood Parkway then right at first light which is Ararat Drive. Charles Clark, director of CPN Tribal Rolls, plans to attend. If you plan on attending, please RSVP by contacting me at [jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org](mailto:jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org), or 785-861-7272, no later than May 17.

**Changes in CPN Veterans Organization Membership:** Effective June 2016 the annual membership dues for those veterans residing in District 4 will be \$10. Membership in the CPN Veteran’s Organization is again open to non-tribal veterans who are spouses of CPN tribal members. I will have application forms at the May 21 meeting.

**Participation in veteran activities at the Family**

**Reunion Festival:** I should mention that you do not need to be a member of the CPN Veterans Organization to participate in veteran activities at the Family Reunion Festival taking place June 26-28. These would include the veterans meeting usually held on Saturday morning and joining the other veterans in the Grand Entry to open the Saturday night powwow.

**Suspected Native American burial site – update:** No progress has been made on this investigation as the Kansas State archeologist has been unable to obtain permission from the land owner for us to enter his property.

**Support a tribal member-owned business:** Wouldn’t you agree that most of us have some “gaps” in our diet? It’s not easy to

get enough of the fresh, raw fruits and vegetables to meet the daily recommended 9 to 13 servings! CPN member LeAnn Oblander, a Smith/Hartman descendant, may have the solution for you. If you would like more information on how to obtain a whole-food based supplement with 30 concentrated fruits, veggies and berries in a capsule or a chewable that you take daily to help you get more of what you are missing. Contact her at [leanno-oblander@gmail.com](mailto:leanno-oblander@gmail.com). There is more information on her website about all her healthy living products. Take a peek at the amazing tower garden that allows you to grow your own vegetables anywhere. Please contact LeAnn for more information about saving money by growing your own food, eating healthier, improving your health.

If you are not receiving emails from me it is because I do not have your current email address. All you have to do is send me your email address and I will enter you into my District 4 information file. Send it to [jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org](mailto:jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org).

As always, it is my pleasure to serve as your legislative representative.

*Migwetch,*

Jon Boursaw, *Wetase Mkoh*  
CPN District 4 Rep.  
(O) 785-861-7272  
(C) 785-608-1982  
[jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org](mailto:jon.boursaw@potawatomi.org)  
Office Hours:  
Tuesday 9-11 a.m.  
Thursday 3-5 p.m.  
Other times - Please call



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## District 5 - Gene Lambert

Those April showers...that bloom in May.... I remember as a kid used to be a beautiful song.

However, those of you who attended the April 10 Arizona meeting at Schnepf Farms would probably agree with

me, it doesn't sound as good anymore.

It rained, it poured, the wind blew and it was cold. It was beautiful and sunny the days before and after.

I had checked on fans because the heat started so early here in Arizona. It had been in the 80s and 90s for the month prior. Vice-Chairman Linda Capps had inquired earlier about the need of a jacket. I assured her that would not be necessary. (Another good decision.)

She froze.

Tribal Chairman John Barrett was having difficulty being heard as the rain hitting the tin roof echoed as he spoke. Yet he continued his ceremonial training. Everyone always loves to hear his stories.

They were all troopers and we had a lot of fun anyway. It will give us something to laugh about in the future. I am still washing out all the mud. In almost 20 years I have never had that happen.

When I perform ceremonies for weddings, funerals and other occasions, I always share the idea that nothing ever goes exactly as you plan. In the assurances I remind them the little things that go wrong is what makes their day special. These are the things you will remember and enjoy for a lifetime.

I want to thank all of you who helped make that day very special, including:

- The Arizona Diamondbacks for their donation of four game tickets.
- The Arizona Cardinals for their authentic t-shirt and cap.



*Tribal Chairman John "Rocky" Barrett stands with the dance group Indigenous Enterprise.*

- A company called "Beautifully Damaged" for their gift of a t-shirt, earrings and a necklace.
- The dancers, "Indigenous Enterprise" (pictured above with Chairman Barrett).
- Kenneth Shirley for sharing their Navajo heritage with us Citizen Potawatomi.
- Larry, Bob, Candice and Connie for their gracious greetings in the rain.
- And Schnepf Farms for doing everything possible to make things enduring.

I am very proud to be a part of such a tenacious group of Native people.

You can always count on everyone to make it great even when everything goes wrong.

Thank you for being true Citizen Potawatomi.

Eunice Gene Lambert  
District 5  
[euniceilambert@gmail.com](mailto:euniceilambert@gmail.com)  
480-228-6569



*Grace Driscoll speaks with Gene Lambert.*



## District 6 - Rande K. Payne

*Bozho Nikanek,*

It's that time of year we celebrate our graduates. Congratulations to all that have worked toward their academic goals putting in the effort and sacrifices for achievement! And congratulations to those behind the scenes that played significant support roles helping their grads reach the finish line!

There are many things to be proud about being Potawatomi and the one I am most proud of is our tribe's

vision for the future. A large part of that vision is a commitment to economic stability and growth so that we have the resources available for education for our citizens. Our heritage and culture should always remain at the forefront of who we are as a people. However, the world we live in today is very different than the world of our ancestors.

We don't have to look back very far to see periods of genocide, oppression and fighting for our mere survival. Today, we live in an age affording the opportunity to thrive and education is key. Yes, we can survive without much effort but history tells us we are people that thrive even under the most challenging of conditions.

The CPN Tribal Rolls De-

partment heads up our scholarship assistance program. Contact them today for information on the benefits available for education. They can also steer you in the right direction for housing assistance needs. If you have any other questions, the newly created CPN Education Department is there to help too. Contact them at [college@potawatomi.org](mailto:college@potawatomi.org) by visiting [cpn.news/education](http://cpn.news/education).

For those following the State of Oklahoma's attempt at collecting sales tax from the sale of goods and services on our trust land to non-tribal members, there is good news. After spending an enormous amount of tribal funds to thwart the state's effort, we have prevailed!

This has been a very tumultuous period in our tribe's

history and the victory is nothing short of miraculous. So many facets of our Nation were hanging in the balance creating overwhelming uncertainty to wrestle with. Truly a modern day story of David and Goliath! But this was no individual effort. It was the collective effort of nearly everyone in leadership at tribal headquarters as well as our entire legal department and the folks at the *Hownikan*. This victory is extremely significant in so many ways. While we will never recover what was lost in the battle our future has been preserved! Great job by one and all!

This is a reminder that Family Reunion Festival is just around the corner on June 26-28. Don't wait any longer, make your plans today! This year's honored families

are: Clardy, Frapp, Kahdot, Juneau, Pappan, Crumbo, and Muller.

Wisdom from the Word: "Goliath walked out toward David with his shield-bearer ahead of him, sneering in contempt at this nice little red-cheeked boy!" 1 Samuel 17: 41-42

*Bama pi,*

Rande K. Payne  
*Mnedo Gabo*  
Legislator District 6  
31150 Road 180  
Visalia, CA 93292-9585  
(559) 999-3525 office  
(559) 999-5411 cell  
[rande.payne@potawatomi.org](mailto:rande.payne@potawatomi.org)

# GATHERING OF POTAWATOMI NATIONS

**HOSTED BY CITIZEN POTAWATOMI NATION IN SHAWNEE, OK - JULY 28-30, 2016**  
**THE LANGUAGE CONFERENCE WILL RUN FROM JULY 27-29, 2016**





District 8 - Dave Carney

Happy spring!

Spring break is the traditional time of year for students to blow off some steam and get as far away from their studies as their vehicles and budgets allow. Instead of lying on sandy beaches or engaging in recreational activities this spring break, we did the opposite. My family and I headed out on an 800 plus mile road trip to check out various colleges across Washington State for my second son, Luke, who is a high school junior.

We live in western Washington, and will be checking out the University of Washington in Seattle and Western Washington University in Bellingham in the next few months, but this trip was to explore the schools east of the Cascade Mountains. We looked at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington State University in Pullman, Gonzaga in Spokane and Eastern Washington University in Cheney. Most of the campus tours were provided by energetic young students, eager to show off their schools. Spring is the perfect time of year to walk these campuses as trees are budding, bulbs are blooming and snow is still high in the mountains – very idyllic.

Most of the schools are on the quarter system, which makes applying for the Potawatomi scholarship a little more

complicated, because it is calibrated to a semester academic year.

As a reminder, the scholarship is up to \$1,500 per semester for full time (12+ semester hours) and up to \$750 per semester for part-time (3-11 semester hours). Scholarships are also awarded to graduate students and vocational school students. Certain GPA requirements also must be met, but they are very manageable. While a student could not count on this scholarship award as a sole source of tuition funds, it is very helpful and very much appreciated by students who have received it, including my oldest son, Nick, who will be graduated from the University of Washington this year with a degree in Computer Science.

One of the things I appreciate

about the CPN scholarship is that it is not need based, so one does not need to prove financial hardship (though parents' tax return do need to be submitted). The key to getting the award is meeting the deadline – so please mark your calendars. Applications for spring/winter are Dec. 1. Applications for fall are due Aug. 1. Supporting documentation can be submitted Jan. 15 and Sept. 15 respectively.

If you have any questions, the newly created CPN Education Department is there to help. Contact them at [college@potawatomi.org](mailto:college@potawatomi.org) by visiting [cpn.news/education](http://cpn.news/education).

I am currently in the planning stages of a District 8 regional meeting in the Spokane/Coeur d'Alene area around the first weekend of August 2016. This would be a meeting that I conduct as outreach

and community building and not be attended by the tribal executive officials necessarily. I mention this because people always ask me “Where are Rocky and Linda?” and seem disappointed when it is just me (ha ha). I hope to see many members there.

The Family Festival is coming up (always the last full weekend in June). This year it is June 24-26. One of the honored families will be mine - the Juneau(s). If you are a Juneau and planning on attending I'd like to hear from you!

Best Regards,

Dave Carney/Kagasghi  
[dcarney@potawatomi.org](mailto:dcarney@potawatomi.org)  
360-259-4027



District 11 - Lisa Kraft

Each fiscal year, U. S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requests proposals for tribal community “bricks and mortar” projects. It is one of my favorite grants to write because the award means growing tribal vision. Having learned how to write these grants for our tribe (beginning with the clinic expansion in 1997 and my last one in 2000 for the heritage center), I have perfected my grant application process for other Oklahoma tribes. These federal grant awards are now \$800,000 a project in our region and end up being much larger once the tribe contributes leverage dollars in excess of 25 percent. I also manage the grant reporting, federal procurement process, and

construction management for my tribal clients. Right now, I am building one of the largest tribal dialysis clinics in Oklahoma Indian Country at a cost of just under \$2 million. These grants are out again with a submission deadline of June 14, 2016.

Therefore, I can appreciate the grant development process that our Office of Self Governance is working through and the program directors vying with the executive branch to get their project selected. I also appreciate the Citizen Potawatomi Nation Construction Department as they plan their work to complete existing ICDBG projects (each must be built within five years) and look to construct our future.

Director Bill Smith oversees the CPN Construction Department and every aspect of the construction process, including costing materials and labor and hiring subcontractors. The CPN Construction Department has approximately 7-8 staff members, but the use of general contractors, on

occasion, helps supplement the multiple federal projects and other large-scale jobs going on at the CPN. HUD ICD-BG awards require strict federal procurement standards in the selection and justification of a general contractor or the tribe risks having to pay the federal money back for violating federal laws (2 CFR Part 200). Whether the tribe acts as the general contractor or hires one through a competitive process, it is required to hire/select a percentage of Section 3 (24 CFR §135.30) minority and resident contractors, subcontractors and laborers.

The CPN also relies on a professional architect on staff in the CPN Information Technology Department who works with program directors to design buildings and then works with other mechanical and civil engineers to create building specifications and estimates. Having this human asset on deck saves the tribe considerable time and money.

Director Smith acts as a project manager, overseeing

on-site progress and day-to-day issues arising from the actual construction process. The tribal construction department's flexibility is one of its strengths, which includes collaborating with fellow tribal departments like electric and HVAC. The construction department's staff is chiefly responsible for site preparation and operating heavy equipment.

Typically, the program director that will be moving into and utilizing the new building or maintaining the infrastructure (water and sewer) will be assigned the financial management and grant reporting responsibilities required in the grant conditions.

Looking at the extensive number of diverse construction projects completed, the CPN Construction Department's efficacy is plain to see - all you have to do is look around at our impressive growth the last 20 years.

- Clinic Expansion (FY1997)
- Sewer and Water

- Infrastructure (FY1998)
- Wellness Center (FY1999)
- Child Development Center (FY2000)
- Heritage Center (FY2001)
- CDC MicroEnterprise (FY2002)
- FireLake Youth Center (FY2003)
- FNB Bank Building (FY2004)
- Firelodge/Gym (FY2005)
- Satellite Clinic (FY2006)
- CDC MicroEnterprise (FY2007)
- Medical Annex (FY2008)
- McLoud Grocery Store (FY2010)
- CDC MicroEnterprise (FY2011)
- Workforce Development Center (FY2013)
- Grand ChildCare Center (FY2014)
- CDC MicroEnterprise (FY2015)

As always, I am thinking Potawatomi.

Lisa Kraft (Zibikwe)  
Oklahoma Tribal Legislator (2008-2019)  
District 11 - Statewide  
[Lisa@CopperBearConsulting.com](mailto:Lisa@CopperBearConsulting.com)



District 13 - Bobbi Bowden

Bozho Nikan,

This year seems to be flying by! Our Family Reunion Festival is right around the corner. Keep watching the

web page <http://cpn.news/CPNFest2016> and the *Hownikan* for information on Festival. Registration will take place the day of at FireLake Arena. The page will be updated in the coming months as more details become available.

Our tribal employees are working hard on preparations to make this year's Festival even better than the last. My deepest, heartfelt thanks goes out to each and every employee for your hard work each and every day and es-

pecially at this time of the year. I am looking forward to meeting as many of you as possible and enjoying some much needed family and reflection time during Festival this year!

Speaking of this time of year, I would like to remind or let members know about a benefit that is available to all enrolled tribal members! Being in the real estate industry, this time of year is extremely busy. A lot of families choose this time to purchase a new home once school is out for

summer break so they can get their families settled before the new school year begins.

Our housing department has a “One Time Grant” available to enrolled tribal members who are purchasing, building or refinancing a home. This grant is used for closing costs or down payment. The Nation's bank, First National Bank and Trust Co. is also ready to help you with all of your mortgage needs! Please contact Sherry Byers at 405-273-2833 or [Sbyers@potawatomi.org](mailto:Sbyers@potawatomi.org) with any

questions! But also see the article on this program in the April 2016 *Hownikan*.

This is a wonderful benefit to our members. Please spread the word with your CPN family members!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you as one of your Oklahoma Legislative Representatives.

Migwetch,  
Bobbi Bowden  
Peshknokwe  
District 13 Representative  
[BBowden@potawatomi.org](mailto:BBowden@potawatomi.org)



## Lois Marie Caldwell



Lois Marie Caldwell, 91, walked on Feb. 14, 2016.

She is preceded in death by her parents: Harry and Mary Long; husband: Jesse L. Caldwell; twin sister: Louise Snider; brother: Frank Long; son: Jesse L. Caldwell Jr.; and son-in-law: Warren Ferrell.

Lois is survived by daughters: LoAnn Ferrell, Mary Herrick and Duane Herrick Sr., Laura Morris and Larry Morris; daughter-in-law: Linda Caldwell; grandchildren: Kimberly, Mark Anthony, Michelle, Jessica, Duane Allen, Monica, Richard and Jackie; her many loving great grandchildren and a host of family and friends.

Lois was born and raised in Pawhuska, Oklahoma. She was a Citizen Potawatomi Nation tribal member. Lois and Jesse married in 1942 and raised their four children in the Alvin area. Jesse's work took them on an adventure overseas to Norway and Africa.

They returned to the states and she resided in the Pearland, Texas area for the past 45 years. Her

passion was crafts and sewing. To all her family she was best known as "Grandma Lo" and "Aunt Lo".

A service celebrating Ms. Lois's life was held on Friday, Feb. 19, 2016 in the Chapel at SouthPark Funeral Home. Lois was laid to rest next to her loving husband in SouthPark Cemetery.

What a wonderful 91 years she had. She will be greatly missed by her whole loving family.

## Jimmy Ray Smith



Tecumseh resident, Jimmy Ray Smith, 83, passed away on Sunday, April 3, 2016 at his home. He was born Oct. 13, 1932 in Shawnee to George Herbert and Irene Kate (Whitehead) Smith.

Jimmy joined the United States Army and served during the Korean Conflict. He was a member of the Shawnee Seventh-day Adventist Church and the Citizen Potawatomi Nation. In his younger days, Jimmy enjoyed fishing and hunting. He had

a wonderful sense of humor and never met a stranger.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother: Jerry Smith; and grandson: Joseph Newman.

He is survived by his children: Tanna Sue Franz, Reva Wolf and husband Brian, Michael Smith, Patrick Smith and wife Evette Martinez; grandchildren: Dana Keys, Tanna Lee Smith, and Miranda Jean Smith; great grandchildren: Tristan Keys, Erica Keys, and Robby Abeyta.

Services were held on Friday, April 8, 2016 at Resthaven Funeral Home with interment following at Tecumseh Cemetery.

## Glen A. Gregson



Our dad, grandfather, and great-grandfather, Glen A. Gregson, has peacefully passed away at age 99. A long-time resident of Oxnard, California, he was born in Trousdale, Oklahoma on Jan. 26, 1917, to George and Cora Gregson, on his father's Indian allotment.

He was the last surviving member

of a large family of twelve children raised by George and Cora. His grandmother was Delila Bourassa. During the 1930's Great Depression, Glen joined the Civilian Conservation Corp to help support his family. He learned masonry at that time, and it served him well in his lifetime. After his time with the CCC, Glen went to California to find work. He liked California and decided to stay. It was during this time he found work in a Tungsten mine in Randsburg. It was there he met the love of his life, Ruth Autrey. They were married in 1939.

In 1942, Glen and Ruth moved to Ventura County and it became their home. Glen joined the U.S. Army during WW2. When he returned home in 1946, he started working at the U.S. Naval Construction Battalion Center in Port Hueneme, California. He worked there until he retired in 1976. Glen was an energetic, hard-working family man.

Trout fishing was Glen's favorite pastime, and he fished streams in Ventura County, the Sierra Mountains and beyond. His favorite place to visit was Yellowstone National Park.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth, in 1996. He is survived by his four children: Glenna Peacock (Loren), David (Sharon), Jerry (Liz), and Joel (Orawan). He was grandfather to seven and great-grandfather to thirteen. He also leaves many nephews and nieces.

A graveside service with military honors was held March 11, 2016, at Ivy Lawn Memorial Park in Ventura, California.

May you "Walk On" in peace, dad. You will be greatly missed.

# A Funeral Prayer

*Hau ndenwémagnek*  
Ho my relatives

*Ébyé yak shote gnom*  
We have come here today

*Éwi nesh myé yak ode wdenwéma*  
To lay our brother to rest

*Ngom she épam sét ode*  
Today he walks

*Ga wje zhyé wat gi gambojek*  
Among those who have passed on

*I yé i ébgednoyak ode ngemwen*  
That is why we offer this song

*Émno shketot wa je zhyat ibe shpemsegok*  
That his journey will go well where he goes above

*Iw énaj moyan*  
That's all I have to say

A Potawatomi prayer for a specific loved one who has walked on. By Don Perrot







Mary Catherine Welday Davidson passed away Feb. 26, 2016.

Mary was born March 26, 1949 in Leavensworth, Kansas. She moved to McLoud, Oklahoma in 1958 where Mary and her sister, JoAnn, were adopted by Raymond and Amy Welday.

She attended McLoud Public School where she graduated in 1967. She had her own moving company called “Mary’s Movers” from 1997 to 2008.

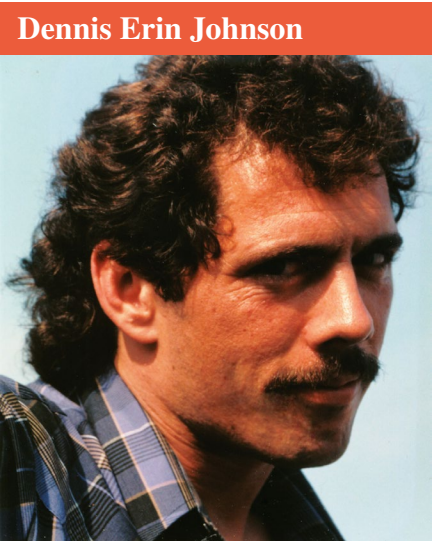
Mary was preceded in death by her father: Raymond Welday; mother: Amy Welday; step-nephew: Charles Van Vranken.

She is survived by her son: Steven Denton and wife Billie Jo Denton of Chickasha, Oklahoma; sister: JoAnn Van Vranken and husband Owen Van Vranken of McLoud; granddaughter: Olivia Denton; nephews: Johnathon Hodde of McLoud, Michael and wife Aslleigh Hodde of McLoud; step-nephew: Toby Van Vranken of Purcell, Oklahoma; step-neice: Teri Richards and husband Bruce of Paoli, Oklahoma; two step-grandchildren, great-nieces, great-nephews and many close friends.

A memorial service was held March 12, 2016 at Citizen Potawatomi Nation’s south reunion hall with many in attendance.

John M. Ireland Funeral Home was in charge of cremation and visitation.

Mary is loved by many and will be missed by many.



After a 9 month battle with cancer, Dennis Erin Johnson died on Feb. 19, 2016 in Eureka, California at the age of 55. He leaves behind his wife: Luann Johnson (Santorum); his sons: Shane Johnson and Michael Johnson.

Erin, as he preferred to be called, was born on April 20, 1960 in Borger,

Texas, to father James Earl Johnson and mother Alice Brenda (Willis) Johnson. He grew up with his brother David, his sister Deborah and two half-brothers Bo and Carey Lindsey. His mother, Alice and brother, David both preceded him in death.

Erin married Luann (Santorum) on June 25, 1988. Shortly after the wedding, Erin and Luann left California as the call of long distance trucking was in Erin's blood. He stayed with his passion for "the road" until a previous illness left him unable to continue. Erin was a long haul driver for 27 years. The last eight years of his driving career were for Joe Costa of Arcata, California.

The family settled in Humboldt County, 18 years ago. Their love of nature brought them to Northern California, for the beaches, the mountains and the magnificent Redwoods. Erin loved to go for walks among these beautiful giants. He had a love of gardening. He truly loved anything that would bring him closer to nature.

When diagnosed with cancer in 2015, he remained dedicated to his family and in his will to fight his illness. He remained a brave, iron-willed man, even throughout his final days.

Erin is survived by his wife and children, as well as his sister: Deborah; half-brothers: Bo and Carey; numerous nieces and nephews.

Erin requested to be cremated. His ashes will be scattered among the trees that he loved so, in a private family memorial.



Corinne Cline died March 21, 2016, in Oklahoma City at the age of 72 years one month 12 days.

Corinne was born Feb. 9, 1944, to

Delbert and Ida Louise (Sanders) Burleson in the Wanette area. She was raised and attended school in Lexington. Corinne worked as a home care worker as well as owning several bars over the years. On Dec. 26, 1999, she married Mike Cline at their home in the Noble/Norman area. Corinne enjoyed fishing, gardening, and anything to do with their farm. She raised animals and enjoyed gaming. Corinne loved to spend time with her family and friends.

Corinne was preceded in death by her father: Delbert Burleson; mother: Ida Louise King; daughter: Pamela Plott; grandson: Zachary Hall; brothers: Carl Burleson and Raymond Burleson; and sister-in-law: Debra Burleson.

Survivors include her husband: Mike of the home; daughter: Kit Raper Zias and husband Mark of Glen Cove, New York; son: Tony Hall and wife Jennie of Mannsville, Oklahoma; stepdaughter: Chanda Lankey and husband David of Minnesota; stepson: Michael Lee Wilson of Minnesota; grandchildren: Jessica, Chris, Mason, Stella, Ashley, Kyler, Amber and Jonah; great-grandchildren: Kamden, Rayden and Jayce; siblings: Barbara Wilson and husband Roger of the Eufaula area, Paul Burleson of Tecumseh, Mark King and wife Nora of Noble and Michael King of Noble; numerous nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held on March 25, 2016 at Wadley’s Funeral Chapel in Purcell. Interment followed at Chappel Hill Cemetery east of Lexington under the care of Wadley’s Funeral Service.



On Feb. 13, 2016, Austin (Butch) Sherwood Field, Jr. died of heart fail-

ure at Kaiser Hospital in Sacramento, California.

Born in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma on December 5, 1951, Butch is survived by his mother: Bettye Dainty; sisters: Sandra Linville, Ceanne Hawthorn, Leigh Anderson.

Butch served in the U.S. Army from 1970 to 1973. He then worked as a truck driver for 42 years, most recently for Ozark Trucking.

Butch graduated from San Juan High School in Citrus Heights, California in 1970 and married high school sweetheart, Barbara (English) Field in 1972. They celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary in Jan. 2016.

Butch became the very proud father of Jeremy Austin Field on Aug. 20, 1973 and of Joshua Emery Field on Aug. 1, 1977. Jeremy and his wife Angela Vine live in Sacramento with their daughter, Schuyler Doria Vine-Field, born in 2014. Joshua and his wife Jessie (Nelson) Field live in San Rafael, California with their daughter, Lucy Marie Field, born in 2015. He loved them all very much.

Butch served as surrogate grandparent for Blaze Drinkwine the son of good friends, his niece Samantha and nephew Nicholas English from Reno, Nevada. He brought the same love and creativity to his role as grandfather as he did to all the relationships in his life, looking forward to spoiling and mentoring them as he shared in their lives.

Butch was an athlete and avid outdoorsman and he participated in the Eppie’s Great Race Triathlon in the ironman division for over 20 years. He shared his love for bicycling and kayaking, often training and teaching others. He was also a hunter and fisherman, relishing the time he spent with friends and in solitude with God engaged in those activities. Butch’s handmade snowshoes won first place at tribal council in recent years.

Submitting obituaries

To submit an obituary, please send a word document with **no more than 300 words**, a 300dpi photo and a contact phone number to [hownikan@potawatomi.org](mailto:hownikan@potawatomi.org).

CPN burial assistance through Tribal Rolls

The \$2,000 CPN Burial Assistance Fund is automatically available to all enrolled CPN members. You may fill out a burial assistance fund form if you would like for us to keep it on file in case of any change in resolutions.

Please note: Once a CPN Tribal member has passed, the Tribal Rolls office must

be notified in order for CPN to provide burial funding. Information and instructions for the burial process will be sent to the next of kin and will be discussed then.

For more information please call Tribal Rolls at 405-878-5835 or email [CClark@Potawatomi.org](mailto:CClark@Potawatomi.org).